



OREGON  
**WATERSHED**  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

Virtual Meeting  
July 27-28, 2021



# Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

## Meeting Agenda

### July 27 & 28, 2021

#### **Business Meeting - 8:00 a.m.**

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Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the July 27 & 28 board meeting will be held virtually. The public is welcome to listen to the meeting through the following methods:

- **YouTube Streaming:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0dl-TOWlt4Sp--i1KEa\\_OA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0dl-TOWlt4Sp--i1KEa_OA). Please note that there may be a slight delay when streaming the meeting content.
- **Phone:**
  - **July 27:** Dial 1 669 900 6833, when prompted, enter ID number 882 4482 9609 and passcode: 661430
  - **July 28:** Dial 1 669 900 6833, when prompted, enter ID number 842 3554 8864 and passcode: 414359
- The board book (eBook) is available at: <https://www.oregon.gov/oweb/about-us/Pages/board/meetings.aspx>
- For each agenda item, the time listed is approximate. Anyone interested in a particular agenda item is encouraged to give ample time and listen in to the meeting at least 30 minutes before the approximate agenda item time.

#### **Written and verbal public comment**

OWEB encourages public comment on any agenda item.

#### **Written Comments**

Written comments should be sent to April Mack at [April.mack@oregon.gov](mailto:April.mack@oregon.gov). Written comments received by Thursday, July 22 at 4:00 p.m. will be provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

#### **Verbal Comments**

Verbal comments are limited to three minutes and will be heard in the public comment period (Agenda Item C) at approximately 9:15 am. on July 27 and (Agenda Item H) at approximately 8:05 a.m. on July 28. In order to provide verbal comment, you must contact April Mack at [April.mack@oregon.gov](mailto:April.mack@oregon.gov), by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26, and provide the following information:

- Your first and last name,
- The topic of your comment, and
- The phone number you will be using when calling the meeting. Also, note if the phone is a landline and you prefer to be scheduled for public comment early to avoid long distance phone call charges.

## Tuesday, July 27, 2021

### A. Board Member Comments (8:10 a.m.)

Board representatives from state and federal agencies will provide an update on issues related to the natural resource agency they represent. This is also an opportunity for public and tribal board members to report on their recent activities and share information and comments on a variety of watershed enhancement and community conservation-related topics. *Information item.*

### B. Review and Approval of Minutes (9:10 a.m.)

The minutes of the March 9-10, 2021 virtual meeting will be presented for board approval. *Action item.*

### C. Public Comment (9:15 a.m.)

This time is reserved for the board to hear public comment and review the written public comment submitted for the meeting. *Information item.*

### D. Committee Updates (9:30 a.m.)

Representatives from board committees will provide updates on subcommittee topics to the full board. *Information item.*

### E. Director's Updates (10:10 a.m.)

Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden and OWEB staff will update the board on agency business and late-breaking issues. *Information item.*

### F. Spending Plan (11:20 a.m.)

**NOTE: Verbal public comment specific for this agenda item will be heard on Tuesday, July 27 at approximately 12:40 p.m.**

Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden will provide the 2021-23 Spending Plan for board review and approval based on both feedback from the March board meeting and the May revenue forecast for the Oregon Lottery. Guest presenters Elaine Placido of Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Megan Creutzburg representing the SageCon Partnership, and Chris Lorion of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, will discuss specific line items in the spending plan directed to their organizations. *Action item.*

### G. OWEB's Role in Managing Funds (2:00 p.m.)

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams will facilitate a panel discussion about programs that OWEB is or will be administering on behalf of other organizations. Panel members include Steve Brink of Idaho Power, Scott Lightcap of the Bureau of Land Management, Jeff Burns of Oregon Department of Forestry, Jason Jeans of Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Clayton Creager of the California Water Boards. *Information item.*

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- The topic of your comment, and
- The phone number you will be using when calling the meeting. Also, note if the phone is a landline and you prefer to be scheduled for public comment early to avoid long distance phone call charges.



## Wednesday, July 28, 2021

### H. Public Comment (8:05 a.m.)

This time is reserved for the board to hear public comment and review the written public comment submitted for the meeting. *Information item.*

### I. Council Operating Capacity Grant Awards (8:20 a.m.)

**NOTE: Verbal public comment specific for this agenda item will be heard on Wednesday, July 28 at approximately 8:20 a.m.**

Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff will provide an overview of the 2021-2023 Watershed Council Capacity grant cycle process and outline staff recommendations for grant awards. *Action item.*

### J. Organizational Collaborations Grants (9:55 a.m.)

Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff will provide an overview of the 2021 Organization Collaboration grant offering and staff funding recommendation. *Action item.*

### K. Update on Stage 0 Monitoring Investments (11:00 a.m.)

Deputy Director Renee Davis, Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator Ken Fetcho, and guest presenters Lauren Mork of Upper Deschutes Watershed Council and Jared Weybright from the McKenzie Watershed Alliance, will provide an update on the progress made to date to implement a multi-pronged approach to address monitoring and information needs for Stage 0 restoration. *Information item.*

### L. Conveyance of Willamette Confluence Property from The Nature Conservancy to McKenzie River Trust (12:30 p.m.)

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams will present a request from The Nature Conservancy to convey the Willamette Confluence Preserve to McKenzie River Trust, along with a staff recommendation for board action, which is required for any property with an OWEB Conservation Easement. *Action item.*

### M. Willanch Telling the Restoration Story (12:50 p.m.)

Deputy Director Renee Davis and Conservation Outcomes Coordinator Audrey Hatch will share products from the 'Telling the Restoration Story' grant investment about Willanch Creek restoration. *Information item.*

### N. Rogue Forest Focused Investment Partnership (FIP) Geography Change Request (1:10 p.m.)

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams and Partnerships Coordinator Andrew Dutterer will present the Rogue Forest Partners request to adjust their FIP initiative geography to include the West Bear area and remove the Middle Applegate area, along with a staff recommendation. *Action item.*

### O. Updates on Climate Executive Order Activities (1:30 p.m.)

Deputy Director Renee Davis and Conservation Outcomes Coordinator Audrey Hatch will update the board about implementation activities for Governor Brown's Executive Order (EO) 20-04, issued in March of 2020 and focused on climate. *Information item.*

## Meeting Rules and Procedures

### Meeting Procedures

Generally, agenda items will be taken in the order shown. However, in certain circumstances, the board may elect to take an item out of order. To accommodate the scheduling needs of interested parties and the public, the board may also designate a specific time at which an item will be heard. Any such times are indicated on the agenda.

Please be aware that topics not listed on the agenda may be introduced during the Board Comment period, the Executive Director's Update, the Public Comment period, under Other Business, or at other times during the meeting.

Oregon's Public Meetings Law requires disclosure that board members may meet for meals when OWEB meetings convene.

### Voting Rules

The OWEB Board has 18 members. Of these, 11 are voting members and 7 are ex-officio. For purposes of conducting business, OWEB's voting requirements are divided into 2 categories – general business and action on grant awards.

### General Business

A general business quorum is **6 voting members**. General business requires a majority of **all** voting members to pass a resolution (not just those present), so general business resolutions require affirmative votes of **at least 6 voting members**. Typical resolutions include adopting, amending, or appealing a rule, providing staff direction, etc. These resolutions cannot include a funding decision.

### Action on Grant Awards

Per ORS 541.360(4), special requirements apply when OWEB considers action on grant awards. This includes a special **quorum of at least 8 voting members** present to act on grant awards, and affirmative votes of at least six voting members. In addition, regardless of the number of members present, **if 3 or more voting members** object to an award of funds, the proposal will be rejected.

### Executive Session

The board may also convene in a confidential executive session where, by law, only press members and OWEB staff may attend. Others will be asked to leave the room during these discussions, which usually deal with current or potential litigation. Before convening such a session, the presiding board member will make a public announcement and explain necessary procedures.

### More Information

If you have any questions about this agenda or the Board's procedures, please call April Mack, OWEB Board Assistant, at 971-345-7001 or send an e-mail to [april.mack@oregon.gov](mailto:april.mack@oregon.gov). If special physical, language, or other accommodations are needed for this meeting, please advise April Mack as soon as possible, and at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

## Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Membership

### Voting Members

Barbara Boyer, *Board of Agriculture*

Molly Kile, *Environmental Quality Commission*  
Mark Labhart, *Fish and Wildlife Commission*  
Brenda McComb, *Board of Forestry*  
Meg Reeves, *Water Resources Commission*  
Jason Robison, *Board Co-Chair, Public (Tribal)*  
Gary Marshall, *Public*  
Jamie McLeod-Skinner, *Public*  
Randy Labbe, *Public*  
Bruce Buckmaster, *Public*  
Liza Jane McAlister, *Board Co-Chair, Public*

**Non-voting Members**

Eric Murray, *National Marine Fisheries Service*  
Stephen Brandt, *Oregon State University Extension Service*  
Anthony Selle, *U.S. Bureau of Land Management*  
Ron Alvarado, *U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service*  
Alan Henning, *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
Paul Henson, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*  
Dan Shively, *U.S Forest Service*

**Contact Information**

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1290  
Tel: 503-986-0178  
Fax: 503-986-0199  
[www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB)

**OWEB Executive Director – Meta Loftsgaarden**  
[meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov](mailto:meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov)

**OWEB Assistant to Executive Director and Board – April Mack**  
[april.mack@oregon.gov](mailto:april.mack@oregon.gov)  
971-345-7001

**2021 Board Meeting Schedule**

July 27 & 28, Virtual  
Oct 26 & 27, Enterprise

**2022 Board Meeting Schedule**

Jan 25 & 26, TBD  
April 26 & 27 TBD  
July 26 & 27 TBD  
October 25 & 26 TBD

For online access to staff reports and other OWEB publications, visit our web site:  
[www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB).

## OTHER FUNDER AWARDS

	2021-2023 Proposed SPENDING PLAN for M76, GF & PCSRF Funds	2021 Spending Plan	2022 Spending Plan	July 2021 Board Awards	TOTAL Awards To- Date	Remaining Spending Plan after Awards To- Date	Other Funding Received & Delegated	Holding Acct Balance 6/28/21	TOTAL M76/GF/ PCSRF Awards	NRCS CREP- TA	BLM	ODF	PSMF C		TOTAL Other Funder Awards	TOTAL Awards To-Date
1	<b>Open Solicitation:</b>															
2	Restoration	32.000	33.500			33.500	0.460	1.845	0.000		0.460				0.460	2.305
3	Fire Recovery & Restoration															
4	Riparian/upland rest. & water quality	10.750	10.750													
5	Floodplain restoration & reconnection	5.000	5.000													
6	Technical Assistance															
7	Restoration TA	3.000	4.500		0.000	4.500			0.000						0.000	0.000
8	CREP TA	1.200	1.200	1.200	1.200	0.000	0.400	0.140	1.200	0.400					0.400	1.740
9	Stakeholder Engagement	2.250	2.250		0.000	2.250	0.000		0.000						0.000	0.000
10	Monitoring grants	4.250	4.250		0.000	4.250	0.000		0.000						0.000	0.000
11	Land and Water Acquisition															
12	Acquisition	9.000	10.000		0.000	10.000	0.000		0.000						0.000	0.000
13	Weed Grants	3.250	3.250	3.250	3.250	0.000	0.000		3.250						0.000	3.250
14	Small Grants	2.800	2.800	2.800	2.800	0.000	0.000		2.800						0.000	2.800
15	Quantifying Outputs and Outcomes	1.000	1.000		0.000	1.000	0.000		0.000						0.000	0.000
16	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74.500</b>	<b>78.500</b>	<b>7.250</b>	<b>7.250</b>	<b>55.500</b>	<b>0.860</b>	<b>1.985</b>	<b>7.250</b>	<b>0.400</b>	<b>0.460</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.860</b>	<b>8.110</b>
17	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>60.80%</b>													<b>13.76%</b>
18	<b>Focused Investments:</b>															
19	Deschutes	1.915	1.915	1.915	1.915	0.000	0.000	0.001	1.915						0.000	1.916
20	Willamette Mainstem Anchor Habitat	1.400	1.400	1.400	1.400	0.000	0.000	0.004	1.400						0.000	1.404
21	Harney Basin Wetlands	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.000		0.100						0.000	0.100
22	Upper Grande Ronde	0.466	0.466	0.466	0.466	0.000	0.000	1.793	0.466						0.000	2.259
23	John Day Partnership	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	0.000	0.000		4.000						0.000	4.000
24	Baker Sage Grouse	2.435	2.435	2.435	2.435	0.000	0.000	0.040	2.435						0.000	2.475
25	Warner Aquatic Habitat	2.293	2.293	2.293	2.293	0.000	0.000		2.293						0.000	2.293
26	Rogue Forest Rest. Ptnrshp	2.700	2.700	2.700	2.700	0.000	0.000		2.700						0.000	2.700
27	Clackamas Partnership	3.082	3.082	3.082	3.082	0.000	0.000	0.010	3.082						0.000	3.092
28	New FIP Solicitation	10.000	10.000	10.000	10.000	0.000	0.000		10.000						0.000	10.000
29	FI Effectiveness Monitoring	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.000	0.000		0.750						0.000	0.750
30	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>1.848</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>30.989</b>
31	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>22.57%</b>													<b>52.59%</b>
32	<b>Operating Capacity:</b>															
33	Capacity grants (WC/SWCD)	15.121	15.121	15.121	15.121	0.000	0.000		15.121						0.000	15.121
34	Statewide org partnership support	0.225	0.425	0.225	0.225	0.200	0.000		0.225						0.000	0.225
35	Organizational Collaboration	0.500	0.500	0.129	0.129	0.371	0.000		0.129						0.000	0.129
36	Partnership Technical Assistance	1.500	1.500		0.000	1.500	0.000		0.000						0.000	0.000
37	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17.346</b>	<b>17.546</b>	<b>15.475</b>	<b>15.475</b>	<b>2.071</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>15.475</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>15.475</b>
38	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>13.59%</b>													<b>26.26%</b>
39	<b>Other:</b>															
40	CREP	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.000	0.000		0.750						0.000	0.750
41	Governor's Priorities	1.000	1.000	0.800	0.800	0.200	0.000		0.800						0.000	0.800
42	Strategic Implementation Areas	1.500	1.500	1.500	1.500	0.000	0.000	0.626	1.500						0.000	2.126
44	Gov. directed - Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.000	0.000		0.330						0.000	0.330
45	Gov. directed - Sage Grouse Conservation Partnership	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.000	0.000		0.350						0.000	0.350
46	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.930</b>	<b>3.930</b>	<b>3.730</b>	<b>3.730</b>	<b>0.200</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.626</b>	<b>3.730</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.356</b>
47	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>3.04%</b>													<b>7.39%</b>
44	<b>TOTAL OWEB Spending Plan</b>	<b>124.918</b>	<b>129.118</b>	<b>55.596</b>	<b>55.596</b>	<b>57.772</b>	<b>0.860</b>	<b>4.459</b>	<b>55.596</b>	<b>0.400</b>	<b>0.460</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.860</b>	<b>58.930</b>

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45	<b>Funds transferred from/to other agencies</b>															
46	Transfer to ODFW - PCSRF	12.884	12.884	12.884	12.884	0.000	0.000		12.884						0.000	12.884
47	Transfer to Eugene Water & Electric Board - GF	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	0.000	0.000		4.000							
48	Transfer from ODF for Forest Health Collaboratives - OF	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.000	0.500		0.500			0.500			0.500	1.000
49	Transfer from PSMFC - IMW - OF	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.000	0.600	0.600		0.000				0.600		0.600	0.600
50	transfer from NRCS - Farm Bill technical support - FF							0.013								
51	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17.984</b>	<b>17.984</b>	<b>17.384</b>	<b>17.384</b>	<b>0.600</b>	1.100	0.000	17.384	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	14.484
52	<b>TOTAL Including OWEB Spending Plan and Other Directed Funds</b>	<b>142.902</b>	<b>147.102</b>	<b>72.980</b>	<b>72.980</b>	<b>58.372</b>	1.960	4.459	72.980	0.400	0.460	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.860	73.414

## The Approach We Take

We believe that every endeavor is guided by a set of commitments not just about the “why” and the “what,” but also the “how.” These are the ways we are committed to engaging in our work. This is our approach. These principles modify everything we do.

Our work is characterized by...

### Involving stakeholders broadly and in partnership

- Involving the community members at all levels
- Promoting community ownership of watershed health
- Collaborating and authentically communicating
- Bringing together diverse interests
- Building and mobilizing partnerships

### Using best available science supported by local knowledge

- Basing approaches on the best available science
- Advancing efficient, science driven operations
- Addressing root sources and causes
- Incorporating local knowledge, experience, and culture
- Catalyzing local energy and investment

### Investing collaboratively with long-term outcomes in mind

- Aligning investments with current and potential funding partners
- Maintaining progress into the future
- Stewarding for the long term
- Taking the long view on projects and interventions

### Demonstrating impact through meaningful monitoring and evaluation

- Providing evidence of watershed change
- Measuring and communicating community impact
- Increasing appropriate accountability
- Incorporating flexibility, adaptive management – when we see something that’s not working, we do something about it

### Reaching and involving underrepresented populations

- Seeking to include the voice and perspectives that are not typically at the table
- Specific, targeted engagement
- Ensuring information is available and accessible to diverse audiences



## OWEB Staff Culture Statement

We are dedicated to OWEB’s mission and take great pride that our programs support watershed health and empower local communities. Our work is deeply rewarding and we are passionate about what we do. Our team is nimble, adaptable, and forward-thinking, while remaining grounded in the grassroots history of watershed work in Oregon. With a strong understanding of our past, we are strategic about our future. We believe in working hard while keeping our work environment innovative, productive, and fun. We are collaborative, both with each other and with outside partners and organizations, and place great value in continually improving what we do and how we do it.

MINUTES ARE NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD

## Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

### March 9 & 10, 2021 Board Meeting

Virtual Zoom Board Meeting

(Audio time stamps reference recording at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=khPN5Jofkaw> / [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d\\_5nCqTAjbw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_5nCqTAjbw))

#### OWEB MEMBERS PRESENT

Boyer, Barbara  
Brandt, Stephen  
Buckmaster, Bruce  
Henning, Alan  
Henson, Paul  
Kile, Molly  
Labbe, Randy  
Labhart, Mark  
Marshall, Gary  
McAlister, Liza Jane  
McComb, Brenda  
McLeod-Skinner, Jamie  
Murray, Eric  
Reeves, Meg  
Robison, Jason  
Selle, Tony  
Shively, Dan

#### OWEB STAFF PRESENT

Ciannella, Greg  
Davis, Renee  
Dutterer, Andrew  
Duzik, Katie  
Fetcho, Ken  
Forney, Miriam  
Greer, Sue  
Grenbemer, Mark  
Hatch, Audrey  
Leopold, Kathy  
Loftsgaarden, Meta  
Mack, April  
McCarthy, Jillian  
Menton, Coby  
Shaff, Courtney  
Williams, Eric

#### OTHER

Berg, Tristen  
Bierly, Ken  
Butler, Tim  
Hanson, Lisa  
Page, Stephanie  
Representative Mark Owens  
Whitman, Richard

#### ABSENT

Alvarado, Ron

**Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

**The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by Co-Chair Jason Robison.**

#### **A. Board Member Comments (Audio = 0:02:30)**

Board representatives from state and federal agencies provided an update on issues related to the natural resource agency they represent. This is also an opportunity for public and tribal board members to report on their recent activities and share information and comments on a variety of watershed enhancement and community conservation-related topics. *Information item.*

#### **B. Review and Approval of Minutes (Audio = 1:10:30)**

The minutes of the December 16 & 17, 2020 virtual meetings were presented for board approval. *Action item.*

Jason Robison moved the board approve the minutes from the December 16 & 17, 2020 virtual meeting. Brenda McComb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**C. Public Comment (Audio = 1:10:58)**

None provided

**D. Committee Updates (Audio = 1:11:05)**

Staff provided an update on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion survey completed by the board in early 2021. Other committee updates were written. *Information item.*

**E. Director's Updates (Audio = 1:35:41)**

Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden and OWEB staff updated the board on agency business and late-breaking issues. These included the approach for granting in 2021 given the assumed increase in Lottery revenues, the annual tribal report, a budget and legislative update, and a written strategic plan update. *Information item.*

**F. Klamath Dam Removal (Audio = 2:06:04)**

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Director Richard Whitman updated the board on the dam removal project and asked for a general indication of board support in the unlikely event that additional funding is needed to complete restoration work following dam removal. *Action item.*

Randy Labbe moved the board affirm that OWEB is an appropriate funding source in the unlikely event that additional funding is needed to complete restoration work following Klamath dam removal, knowing that details will follow in coming months and years to ensure the investments meet the agency's constitutional requirements. Bruce Buckmaster seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**G. Focused Investment Partnership (FIP) Program Monitoring (Audio = 3:10:46)**

Partnerships Coordinator, Andrew Dutterer, and Grant Program Manager, Eric Williams, presented Progress Tracking Reports for the Cohort 2 FIPs. *Information item.*

**H. Food Security and Farmworker Safety Update (Audio = 3:38:20)**

Tide Gate Coordinator, Jillian McCarthy, Conservation Outcomes Coordinator, Audrey Hatch, and Regional Program Representative, Coby Menton, provided an overview of the Food Security and Farmworker Safety (FSFS) Program. *Information item.*

**I. Oregon Department of Transportation Fish Passage (Audio = 4:45:00)**

Grant Program Manager, Eric Williams, requested the board authorize the Executive Director to add \$100,000 in ODOT funds to an existing agreement for OWEB to distribute for watershed grants. *Action item.*

Jason Robison moved the board authorize the Executive Director to amend the Interagency Master Funding Contribution Agreement (#217-901) with Oregon



Department of Transportation by increasing ODOT's contribution from \$500,000 to \$600,000, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into appropriate agreements with grantees under the terms of the Agreement. Randy Labbe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**J. Telling the Restoration Story (Audio = 4:00:35)**

Deputy Director, Renee Davis shared information about the Willow Creek Telling the Restoration Story project. *Information item.*

**K. Climate Change Considerations in Grant Making (Audio = 4:05:13)**

Deputy Director, Renee Davis requested board support for outreach to grantees and partners about OWEB's efforts to address climate considerations more fully across its grant programs. *Action item.*

Gary Marshall moved the board support initiating outreach to applicants, grantees, and stakeholders about the agency's climate related work, with the first step being a 'heads up' letter that will be circulated following the spring 2021 board meeting. Barbara Boyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**L. Strategic Implementation Areas Audio = 4:53:29**

Acting Business Operations Manager, Courtney Shaff, provided an overview of the status of the 2020 Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA) and request technical assistance, stakeholder engagement, and monitoring funding for the current slate of SIAs. *Action item.*

Meg Reeves move the board amend and increase Grant Number 220-8010-17550 by \$1,125,000 for nine Strategic Implementation Areas and delegate authority to the Executive Director to distribute the funds, through appropriate agreements with an award date of March 9, 2021. Brenda McComb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**M. OS Grant Awards (Audio = 5:05:05)**

Regional Program Representatives Katie Duzik, Mark Grenbemer, Liz Redon, Greg Ciannella, Sue Greer, and Coby Menton, and Grant Program Manager, Eric Williams, provided an overview of the Spring 2020 Open Solicitation grant review and evaluation process and requested funding for staff-recommended restoration, technical assistance, and open solicitation projects. *Action item.*

Liza Jane McAlister move the board increase the spending plan by the amounts shown in Table 2 of the Item M staff report and award funds for the staff-recommended projects listed in Attachment D, Item M. Jamie McLeod-Skinner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 by Co-Chair Jason Robison.**

**July 27 & 28 2021 OWEB Board Meeting**

**Agenda Item C**

**Written Public Comment**



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June 30, 2021

Dear Members of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board,

Regrettably, the March deadline for the submission of their OWEB Capacity Grant was missed by the SRWC staff. There were several factors that contributed to this situation that have been identified and addressed by the SRWC Board. The OWEB Capacity Grant is extremely important to the SRWC in terms of providing needed resources for its stability. We realize that the policy of the OWEB is not to accept any grant proposals that missed the submission deadline. However, given the unusual circumstances that have been encountered by the SRWC over the past 18 months, and the ongoing significant efforts to restore the SRWC to a fully committed and functional role as an important Watershed Council, we respectfully request the opportunity to resubmit our OWEB Operating Capacity Grant for 2022-2023 (Attachment1).

### **Background**

The Executive Committee (EC) of the SRWC met to review and identify the factors that contributed to staff missing the application deadline. The EC evaluated the factors that contributed to the situation and developed a reasonable and implementable path forward. Identified as contributing factors were the following: 1) loss of 4 staff members over the past 15 months due to financial and other concerns; 2) remaining staff comprised of one part time interim executive director (0.6 FTE) and two part time staff project leaders that (due to funding issues) have had hours reduced such that together they comprise 1.3 FTE; 3) communication issues among staff that were likely exacerbated by remote working due to Covid 19 restrictions and part-time work schedules; 4) some chain of command issues were identified that were likely exacerbated by communication issues as identified above; 5) and, non-centralized and chaotic record storage attributable to former staff.

As part of the overall recovery of the SRWC, the need to develop and submit project proposals for funding in 2022 was identified as the highest priority for the SRWC viability. The EC determined that an important tool for ensuring the SRWC would meet grant deadlines was to develop a grant calendar. The SRWC built a calendar to identify each grant being submitted, grant deadlines and, the staff member responsible for writing, tracking and working with the temporary staff grant writer for submission. Regular and improved communication among staff members and updates on proposal progress are to be noted and discussed at weekly staff meetings.

The SRWC applied for, and received, Payroll Protection Plan monies under the Federal Stimulus Plan that were partly used for hiring temporary part-time staff. Thus far an accountant, grant writer and administrative assistant have been hired part time on a temporary basis. These individuals have been of considerable help to the SRWC by allowing the limited staff to concentrate their efforts on the restructuring and recovery of the SRWC going forward.

The SRWC also depends strongly on the SRWC members' volunteer participation to fill in for some of the immediate needs as the SRWC rebuilds. The SRWC has an extremely engaged and active council that are fully committed to the rebuilding of this organization because they recognize the importance of

the Sandy River watershed, not only to the fish and wildlife of the watershed, but to the diverse community that accesses opportunities associated with this thriving watershed. Board members have been engaged in efforts ranging from the: development writing and submission of proposals for funding; conducting project monitoring activities; as well as providing oversight for specific projects by the development and implementation of sub committees specific to those projects.

We have also identified and are pursuing opportunities going forward to continue meeting the needs of the Council as we restructure, rebuild and secure financing. These include: partnering with regional agencies; increasing the FTEs of present staff; adding part-time term staff members devoted to specific grant projects; accessing community college students to accomplish tasks that fulfill the intern requirements associated with their degree; and partnering with the Environmental Sciences Department at Portland State University to access Masters' and Ph.D. level students for thesis opportunities with term-based stipends under specific grants.

### **Current Status**

Using the present process, the SRWC has successfully submitted several grant proposals for funding the remainder of 2021 and 2022. While several of these grants have not yet been awarded, the successful on-time applications include:

<b>2022 SRWC Potential Projects with Submitted Proposals</b>
<b>Sandy Salmon Floodplain Reconnection Project</b>
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Pacific Power & Light
<b>Cold Water Refuge and Lamprey Monitoring and Evaluation</b>
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Open Solicitation
<b>Sandy River Delta Habitat Restoration</b>
Oregon Department of Agriculture/OWEB
Hillman Family Foundation
Charlotte Martin Foundation
US Forest Service
<b>Sandy River Delta Education</b>
National Environmental Education Foundation
US Forest Service
Oregon Community Foundation
<b>Beaver Creek</b>
City of Gresham
City of Troutdale
Multnomah County
<b>Mount Hood Community College Retrofit</b>
City of Gresham
The East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District
<b>Council Support</b>
The East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

<b>Misc.</b>
Mt. Hood Willamette RAC application
National Forest Foundation

## Summary

The Sandy River watershed is vital to the health, well-being, environmental, educational and recreational opportunities for the largest metropolitan area in Oregon. The SRWC has played a critical role for many years in successfully bringing diverse partners together to protect the resources of the Sandy River watershed. We engage with our community to develop solutions, such as stream restoration projects, that build resilience to climate change. Our watershed is threatened with flooding and channel migration in populated areas, wildfire that threaten the pristine forests due to drought, and more waste water in our salmon producing streams due to an increase in populations in our fast-growing communities. Our council works to engage volunteers to join with other groups to clean up the increase in garbage that pollutes our streams and waterways. We assist in finding solutions to dealing with stormwater runoff by partnering with local government agencies to protect our streams that are important fish habitats.

As previously stated, the OWEB Capacity Grant is extremely important to the SRWC in terms of providing needed resources for its future stability. We request that the OWEB Board recognize the ongoing significant efforts to restore the SRWC to a fully committed and functional Watershed Council, and consider our request for the opportunity to have our OWEB Operating Capacity Grant late submission accepted for 2022-2023.

I will be happy to address any specific questions that you may have pertaining to this request. Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Margaret J. Filardo, Ph.D.  
Chair, Sandy River Watershed Council  
17405 NE Glisan St.  
Portland, OR 97230  
[margaret.filardo@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.filardo@gmail.com).

**Application Name:** Sandy River Watershed Council Capacity

**By:** Sandy River Basin WC

**Offering Type:** Council Capacity Grants

**Application Type:** Council Capacity

**OWEB Region:** Willamette Basin

**County:** Clackamas

**Coordinates:** 45.452952,-122.144305

**Applicant:**

Kris Balliet  
17405 NE Glisan St  
Portland OR 97230  
(503) 622-9134  
kris@sandyriver.org

**Payee:**

Kris Balliet  
17405 NE Glisan St  
Portland OR 97230  
(503) 622-9134  
kris@sandyriver.org

**Project Manager:**

Kris Balliet  
17405 NE Glisan St  
Portland OR 97230  
(503) 622-9134  
kris@sandyriver.org

**Budget Summary:**

OWEB Amount Requested: \$122,500  
Total Project Amount: \$209,363

## Administrative Information

### Abstract

Provide an abstract statement for the project. Include the following information: 1) Identify the project location; 2) Briefly state the project need; 3) Describe the proposed work; 4) Identify project partners.

In response to organizational and financial challenges the Sandy River Watershed Council is seeking funds to capitalize on an opportunity to completely restructure the organization's financial management and grant-tracking systems, update our bylaws and employee handbook, and build and execute a new strategic plan. Ongoing work includes:

Phase II of reconnection of the historic floodplain at the confluence of the Sandy and Salmon rivers near Brightwood, Oregon to repair salmonid habitat and alleviate downstream flooding. Partners: OWEB, BLM, National Fish and Wildlife Fund.

Continuation of Cold Water Refuge restoration at the Sandy River Delta on a project site or ~1,500 acres administered by US Forest Service near Troutdale, Oregon—including riparian area planting, and indigenous First Foods restoration including wapato and lamprey. Partners: USFS, Tributaries Network, Friends of Trees, Confluence, Wisdom of the Elders.

Continuation of Timberline to Troutdale annual volunteer trash clean up events on Mt. Hood and the lower Sandy River and summer Stash the Trash program at five participating parks on the Lower Sandy River. Partners: City of Troutdale, Oregon State Parks, Metro, Portland Water Bureau, AMR, Mt. Hood Institute, USFS.

Continuation of our Salmon Safe project to convert hardened parking lot surfaces at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon to swales and native tree and shrub planting beds, while garnering community support for the removal of the Kelly Creek Dam. Partners: MHCC, City of Gresham, East Multnomah SWCD, Resources Legacy Fund, Beaver Creek Partnership.

Beaver Creek Restoration: Involving community members in the restoration of riparian habitat along an important fish-bearing tributary of the Sandy River Tributary located in Gresham and Troutdale, Oregon. Partners: City of Gresham, City of Troutdale, Beaver Creek Partnership, East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation

## **Location Information**

*What is the ownership of the project site(s)?*

☐ *Public land (any lands owned by the Federal government, the State of Oregon, a city, county, district or municipal or public corporation in Oregon)*

☐ *Private (land owned by non-governmental entities)*

☒ *Not applicable to this project*

☒ *This grant will take place in more than one county.*

List the counties affected:

Multnomah and Clackamas Counties

## **Permits**

Other than the land-use form, do you need a permit, license or other regulatory approval of any of the proposed project activities?

☐ Yes

☒ No

## **Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement**

Racial and Ethnic Impact Statement

☒ The proposed grant project policies or programs could have a disproportionate or unique POSITIVE impact on the following minority persons. (indicate all that apply)

☐ The proposed grant project policies or programs could have a disproportionate or unique NEGATIVE impact on the following minority persons. (indicate all that apply)

☐ The proposed grant project policies or programs WILL HAVE NO disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons.

☐ *Women*

☐ *Persons with Disabilities*

☐ *African-Americans*

☒ *Hispanics*

☐ *Asians or Pacific Islanders*

☒ *American Indians*

☐ *Alaskan Natives*

Please provide the rationale for the existence of policies or programs having a disproportionate or unique impact on minority persons.

The council has been working diligently to develop a comprehensive DEI strategy. Our commitment to DEI was further fueled by the Black Lives Matter Movement in 2020. We formed a committee to develop a DEI statement and are developing an equity action plan for the organization. Meanwhile, we are continuing to develop partnerships with indigenous partners ensuring they have central leadership on projects of interest and seeking additional funding to jointly support these initiatives.

We have held extensive consultations and site visits with two Native American organizations— Wisdom of the Elders and Tributaries Network. Tradition Keepers from Tributaries Networks will conduct a Sandy River Delta



survey for Wapato as well as seeking sites suitable for planting other important First Foods. Wisdom of the Elders will be providing interns to carry out Wapato restoration and the planting of additional First Foods at the Sandy River Delta.

Additionally, we have begun working with the local organizations AntFarm, People of Color Outdoors, Vive NW, and Play Grow Learn—a youth workforce training program—in an ongoing effort to center our diversity, equity, and inclusivity goals in the work of the council.

Please provide evidence of consultation with representative(s) of affected minority persons.

We have conducted and will continue to conduct meetings with Wisdom of the Elders and other indigenous organizations, People of Color Outdoors, AntFarm, and other groups in the region to ensure that the work of the council takes into account and centers the values of affected minority persons and other traditionally excluded or marginalized groups within the watershed. We partner with ViveNW to host culturally specific stewardship events in the Mt. Hood National Forest for the LatinX community and have hosted work days on Mt. Hood Community College campus with Play Grow Learn, serving racially diverse youth aged 15-24 from the Gresham area, to maintain the rain gardens and nature-scaped areas.

### **Insurance Information**

*If applicable, select all the activities that are part of your project - These require a risk assessment tool unless otherwise noted (check all that apply).*

- ☐ *Working with hazardous materials (not including materials used in the normal operation of equipment such as hydraulic fluid)*
- ☐ *Earth moving work around the footprint of a drinking water well*
- ☐ *Removal or alteration of structures that hold back water on land or instream including dams, levees, dikes, tidegates and other water control devices (this does not include temporary diversion dams used solely to divert water for irrigation)*
- ☐ *Applicant's staff or volunteers are working with kids related to this project (DAS Risk assessment tool not required, additional insurance is required )*
- ☐ *Applicant's staff are applying herbicides or pesticides (DAS Risk assessment tool not required, additional insurance is required)*
- ☒ *Insurance not applicable to this project*

### **Additional Information**

☐ *This project affects Sage-Grouse.*

## Problem Statement

Does the watershed council have a fiscal sponsor?

☐ Yes

☒ No

Is the council a membership organization?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Date of last annual membership meeting.

02/10/2021

The council is a group of councils operating collectively.

☐ Yes

☒ No

Is the applicant a group of councils operating independently?

☐ Yes

☒ No

For Details Upload the council's most recent bylaws.

For Details Upload the council's most recent policies and procedures.

For Details Upload the council's local government designation

Date of the council's 2019-2021 self assessment?

04/15/2021

Date of last council officer elections.

01/13/2021

Does the council have written position descriptions for council board officers?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Does the council have written roles and responsibilities for council governing body members?

☒ Yes

☐ No

How many times did/will the council governing body meet between July 1, -June 30, of the current 2 year biennium?

16

Describe how the council advertises its general council meetings.

The council advertises its general council meetings on the council website, via e-mail newsletter, and by posting event flyers in the communities within the watershed.

Do council governing body meetings have agendas, sign-in sheets, and minutes?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Describe how your board membership includes a diverse range of geographic areas and community interests in the watershed.

Each region of the watershed has a designated representative in addition to three at large members. Board members represent the Sandy River Headwaters, the Middle Sandy River, the Salmon River, and Beaver Creek. The Sandy River Watershed Council is composed of people who live, work, or recreate in the Sandy River Basin, as well as organizations that have an interest in the area. The watershed council is a partnership: individuals and organizations work cooperatively to improve the health of the watershed. We coordinate our efforts with many private and public sector partners to produce the greatest benefits for the watershed. We believe that cooperative efforts and relationships will produce lasting benefits for everyone involved. Government representatives from the City of Sandy, the USFS, the City of Portland, Multnomah County, Clackamas County, and the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, as well as representatives of the Oregon Department of Forestry, and the forestry industry also have seats on the board of the council.

Describe any board membership and recruitment challenges and actions being taken to address those challenges.

Sandy River Watershed Council experienced a complete turnover of board leadership in the last year, including the loss of its chair, vice chair, and treasurer. This loss of longstanding leadership represented a challenge and an opportunity for the organization. Thankfully, existing board members stepped into these critical leadership positions and have worked with staff at the council and other stakeholders to craft and enact the organization's new strategic vision. In the coming biennium, SRWC will work on strategic planning and assess missing but needed resources and roles on the Council, with a particular emphasis on developing more robust representation of the racial and cultural diversity present in the communities of the watershed.

Are projects of the council, including those identified in the work plan, identified in a council action plan or strategic plan?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Provide the name and date of the most recent action plan or strategic plan.

We are currently working with Fresh Take consultancy to develop strategic and board plans.

Is the work of the council specifically designed to benefit salmon or steelhead?

☒ Yes

☐ No

✓ Lower Columbia River - Steelhead

✓ Lower Columbia River - Coho Salmon

✓ Lower Columbia River - Chinook Salmon

Describe how the resulting operating capacity grant will benefit salmon or steelhead or their habitat?

SRWC activities support a science-based, basin-wide recovery plan that addresses limiting factors for threatened wild chinook, coho, and steelhead as well as Pacific lamprey, that are considered anchor populations for recovery of Lower Columbia River fish. Projects and their outcomes support sub-basin priorities, based on reach-scale assessments, to create connected corridors of salmon habitat and boost wild fish production toward sustainable levels.

Our 2017 State of the Sandy study reviewed population trends for threatened fish in the Sandy River, with findings that three of four species are showing increased populations in their ten-year averages following the removal of the Marmot dam in 2007 and a coordinated multi-partner restoration campaign that has occurred since then.

<b>Regional Assessments or Recovery Plans</b>
Oregon Conservation Strategy
Lower Columbia River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Oregon Populations of Salmon and Steelhead

## **Proposed Solution Projects**

### **Project #1**

#### Project Title

Sandy River Watershed Council Restructure

#### Project Category

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☐ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☒ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

#### OWEB Grant Number

NA

#### Project Description

The council experienced many challenges in the preceding year. The pandemic, coupled with high organizational and board turnover, presented existential challenges to the organization that have since been overcome. We are currently in the process of a major reorganization that continues to make the council a stronger organization positioned to affect significant positive change in the service areas and communities where we work.

We will build upon the success we have had in restructuring our organization over the last biennium. In 2021 we are focused on strategically consolidating the council's operations and projects, developing internal systems to more efficiently track grants and manage our finances, while rebuilding as an organization. We are developing a new strategic plan for the organization, working with our community and agency stakeholders. We are also working to update our bylaws and hiring/employee handbooks to reflect changes in the organization.

#### Key Partners

OWEB; Fresh Take Consulting; East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District; Portland Water Bureau; Wisdom of the Elders; People of Colors Outdoors; Tributaries Network; AntFarm; local residents of Brightwood, Zigzag, Sandy, Gresham, Troutdale and other communities; and other community interests and groups.

#### Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

We responded to the challenges the council faced in the first year of the biennium by beginning an organizational transformation. We devoted the second year of the biennium to managing the developing situation while looking toward a stronger future for the council. Kris Balliet, a nonprofit management professional and attorney with more than three decades of change management experience and deep organizational aptitude took on the role of Interim Executive Director of the council in July of 2020. She immediately enacted policies designed to maintain organizational priorities while working to identify new streams of funding for the council during the crisis of the pandemic. We began rebuilding the organization shortly thereafter and are working to restructure staff, develop board leadership, revise financial policies, and re-evaluate essential priorities toward a robust future for the council.

### Challenges

The primary challenge facing the council at this time is managing cash flow toward the execution of project deliverables as we work toward emerging from the pandemic a stronger organization. Additional challenges include:

Maintaining current staffing levels while attaining project implementation goals.

Securing general operating support to carry the work of the organization into the future.

Building upon current part-time and temporary staff to effectively meet the demands of organizational operations and project needs.

Revising and updating financial management practices.

Meeting all SRWC financial obligations.

General operating support from OWEB will aid the council in managing the challenges as we navigate our ongoing organizational transformation while delivering on our many projects throughout the watershed.

### Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

A reorganized and strategically-focused council by 2023, with systems and processes in place foster organizational resilience and responsiveness. Strategic planning began in April of 2021 alongside board and staff development work. Additional deliverables include:

Full implementation of financial policies.

Streamlined systems for managing grants and updating organizational and project budgets.

Monthly delivery of financial documents to council members and training for council members to feel confident in interpreting them.

Updated bylaws reflecting the organizational restructure.

Updated employee handbook reflecting current law and organizational restructure.

A fully developed and actionable strategic plan.

We will emerge from the pandemic a leaner, more efficient, and organizationally stronger council, devoted to our mission and its execution throughout the watershed.

### Original Start Date

01/01/2021

### Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

Priority

- ☒ High
- ☐ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

**Project #2**

Project Title

Stakeholder Engagement in Sandy Salmon Phase II Planning

Project Category

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☒ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

OWEB Grant Number

220-3003-17006

Project Description

Local residents have expressed concerns about the second phase of the Sandy-Salmon project. These concerns are primarily focused on potential impacts to wetland degradation. There has also been a request by community stakeholders to analyze beaver populations in this portion of the river. We established a board subcommittee that includes residents of impacted communities and are currently seeking a local resident to represent the community in planning discussions. Project planning is underway and includes project design, permitting, a cultural resources survey, wetland delineation, and amphibian surveys. The project will remove additional levee material, which will ultimately be returned to the Sandy River. Additional engineered log jams will be placed. The project will complement Sandy - Salmon I to insure inundation at a greater range of flows of the adjacent historic floodplain. This project will be maintained and monitored for five years.

Key Partners

Bureau of Land Management; OWEB; ODFW; Portland Water Bureau; Bair, Goodie, and Associates; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

Much work has been accomplished on the Sandy-Salmon floodplain reconnection project over the past two years during Phase I. The council's accomplishments on this project include:

Extensive project planning  
Developed 90% engineered design plans  
A total of 600 feet of levee was removed  
A total of 1,000 logs were placed into the floodplain  
Completed cultural resource survey  
Hosted two visitor outreach days  
Established photo points and placed two game cameras



Pursued donated logs and rootwads  
Procured additional project funding

#### Challenges

Challenges faced by the council on this project are relatively minimal and are currently being addressed.

They include:

Securing a greater degree of landowner support  
Securing full funding for Phase II of the project  
Challenges stemming from recreation use of site

#### Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

Sandy - Salmon II is projected to begin work in July of 2022 and complete work in early summer of 2023. Site restoration will occur immediately following construction and the required five year monitoring effort will also begin immediately post-construction.

Construction will include levee breach, returning levee materials back to the Sandy River, placement of approximately 400 logs and rootwads, and floodplain roughening. Additionally, through outreach community-involvement surrounding this phase of the project, the council will be more deeply woven into the fabric of the local community, fostering ongoing cooperation and stewardship.

#### Original Start Date

01/01/2020

#### Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

#### Priority

- ☒ High
- ☐ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

## **Project #3**

### Project Title

Sandy Salmon Phase II Floodplain Restoration/Monitoring

### Project Category

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☐ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☒ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

### OWEB Grant Number

219-3002-16407

### Project Description

Sandy - Salmon Floodplain Reconnection Phase One construction was completed in 2019. Following outreach with the local community, SRWC developed and implemented an oversight and planning committee to come up with a pathway to including stakeholder feedback in our work going forward. This committee recommended to the full Council that the project be slowed to allow local residents to have greater input on the project, and to allow for extensive monitoring of the river's ongoing natural impact on existing project accomplishments. This monitoring includes invasive weed removal, the planting native trees and shrubs, and placement of game cameras to show changes in the project area and developments in hydrology over the next five years. There is also additional fact-finding work to be done regarding the resident beavers population and impact on adjacent ponds and side channels.

### Key Partners

OWEB, Clackamas County, Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Land Management, Portland Water Bureau, Trout Unlimited, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

### Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

Sandy Salmon Phase I construction was completed on schedule in 2019, with partial levee removal, placement of over 1,000 logs and rootwads, and re-configuration and roughening of the side channel. River water reached the floodplain in Fall of 2020 and we are excitedly moving forward, through monitoring and the making of adjustments in 2021, to begin the next phase construction in 2022.

### Challenges

An unanticipated cultural survey requirement on the fifty-year-old levee postponed the project start date. We also received feedback from local residents concerned about the restoration activities underway. Some of the concerns expressed included potential flooding for downstream homeowners, and disruption of beaver population and habitat in that portion of the river.

We are taking steps to address these concerns by inviting concerned community members to help in the crafting of our next series of actions. We have designated a seat for local recreationalists and homeowners on the newly formed subcommittee advising on the project. We are intentionally slowing the pace of Phase II to allow for the maximum participation of local residents before any additional construction takes place—likely in 2022. This also allows us to take surveys of the potentially impacted beaver population in this stretch of the river, and to gauge the ongoing impacts of Phase I construction to river dynamics.

### Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

We expect the floodplain to be wetted most of the year and we aim for eighty percent survival of our newly planted seedlings. As the river naturally breached a portion of the levy in 2020, we will be monitoring and revising prior plans to adjust for river dynamics. We are also working closely with local residents to ensure that their concerns are addressed in next-step planning. Additional construction will start in Summer 2022 to allow for more planning and community engagement.

### Original Start Date

10/01/2019

### Proposed Completion Date

09/30/2024

### Priority

- ☒ High
- ☐ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

## **Project #4**

### Project Title

Sandy River Delta Habitat Restoration

### Project Category

- ☒ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☐ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

### OWEB Grant Number

NA

### Project Description

Our Sandy River Delta Habitat Restoration project continues twenty years of habitat restoration in a premier natural area administered by the US Forest Service located at the confluence of the Sandy and Columbia Rivers. This habitat restoration is being undertaken in partnership with local Indigenous People-led organizations Wisdom of the Elders and Tributaries Network, an Indigenous People's 501c3 organization. Work in 2021 will include the expansion of native tree and shrub planting and removal of existing Himalayan blackberry.

In 2021 we are incorporating First Foods into our educational programming by engaging Indigenous Youth in wapiti planting in the Sandy River Delta, and by initiating fact finding on how best to fold lamprey conservation work into this effort.

### Key Partners

Native Ecosystems NW, Friends of Trees, Confluence, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Local school districts, Wisdom of the Elders and Tributaries Networks

### Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

In the previous biennium the council made significant headway on habitat restoration in the Sandy River Delta. We:

Planted more than 35,000 native trees and shrubs.

Restored eighteen acres at the habitat continuity project site, removing invasives and planting natives.

Began cold water refuge restoration planning.

Brought 150 students to the delta for stewardship work.

### Challenges

Seasonal flooding has at times ponded water at our tree planting sites. The Covid-19 pandemic has impacted our ability to deliver in terms of on-site gatherings and transportation of groups to the sites. Also, an emerging community of unhoused individuals encamped at the Sandy River Delta has had wide ranging impacts on our ongoing work at the site.

### Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

In the next biennium the council is confident that we can continue to deliver on a significant number of project goals for the restoration of the Sandy River Delta, including:

Cold water refuge habitat restoration.

Return of students to conduct stewardship activities (once covid-19 restrictions being removed).

Site monitoring.

Conservation of wapato.

Conservation of other native fish and amphibians.

Four community planting events per year.

### Original Start Date

01/01/2019

### Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

### Priority

- ☐ High
- ☒ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

## **Project #5**

### Project Title

Kelly Creek dam removal

### Project Category

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☒ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

### OWEB Grant Number

xxx

### Project Description

The Kelly Creek Dam Removal project will investigate the ecological, economic, and social feasibility of removing the Kelly Creek dam, which blocks a Sandy River basin tributary on the Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) campus. In a deep ravine, Kelly Creek bisects the 212-acre campus. When the campus was built in the 1960s, the challenge of connecting two portions of the campus was solved by building a 300-foot long, 66-foot high dam across the ravine and using the crest of the dam as a path for pedestrians and maintenance vehicles. This imposing dam impounds a small, five-acre pond, with surface level of the water far below the dam crest. During the summer, the pond significantly warms the water that flows down Kelly Creek to Beaver Creek, which then joins the Sandy River. Proposed actions will assess strategies and costs to remove the dam, deal with sediment, replace the dam's bridge function, and restore habitat and water quality in Kelly Creek.

### Key Partners

Mount Hood Community College, Beaver Creek Partnership, Trout Unlimited

### Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

Sandy River Watershed Council completed preliminary feasibility analysis of the Kelley Creek pond and dam, including volumes of sediment and material, strategies for partial and full dam removal, replacement of the bridge and other infrastructure functions, and planning concept costs.

### Challenges

The college is 2.5 years delayed in completing their master plan due to staff change-over and the COVID pandemic. The development of this plan is the first stepping stone (as requested by the college) to conducting community outreach.

### Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

The focus of this next biennium, once the capital master plan is complete, will be on developing college and community support for the restoration of Kelly Creek, the development of fishing alternatives for the pond, and the development of funding scenarios.

### Original Start Date

07/01/2021

### Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

Priority

- ☐ High
- ☐ Medium
- ☒ Low
- ☐ Emerging

**Project #6**

Project Title

Mount Hood Community College Salmon Safe Retrofit

Project Category

- ☒ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☐ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

OWEB Grant Number

xxxx

Project Description

Working with East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, the City of Gresham, Metro, and Mount Hood Community College the council has begun work on the addition of stormwater facilities to dramatically reduce stormwater impacts to Kelly Creek, a tributary of the Sandy River. We made the tactical decision to bring in the college and students for GIS mapping, development of stormwater facilities, planting, and other program activities and have been utilizing volunteer hours from community members as well as paid labor up complete project targets.

Key Partners

East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, City of Gresham, Metro, Mount Hood Community College, MHCC students and other community members.

Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

During the 2019-2021 biennium we began the construction of additional stormwater facilities in parking lots G and H on the west side of Mount Hood Community College (2019), and at the north end and along Stark Street in 2020, such that total projects (including those built in 2018) now capture over seven million gallons of stormwater out of a total of sixty million gallons produced annually on campus. The City of Gresham engaged crews to help maintain the existing facilities and despite the pandemic, community members helped to weed and plant the new facilities in 2020. Project partners persevered to install another stormwater facility at the sound end of campus in 2021, transforming a mounded berm between the gym and a large parking lot into a basin with a dry well to capture another million gallons each year.

Challenges

During the pandemic there were challenges working with the college, and a transition in organizational

leadership required careful handling of our relationship with the college as well.

In contrast to other council projects, the pandemic actually streamlined construction in 2020, as the campus was vacant—reducing conflicts, traffic and safety concerns.

Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

Irrigation and a variety of wetland and upland will be installed in the newest facility in front of the gym by early September, 2021. Project partners intend to seek additional funding to retrofit the four parking lots upslope in coming years, aiming for additional construction in 2022.

Original Start Date

07/01/2021

Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

Priority

- ☒ High
- ☐ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

**Project #7**

Project Title

Lower Sandy River and Beaver Creek Outreach

Project Category

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☒ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

OWEB Grant Number

NA

Project Description

Engaging volunteers in the Sandy River Basin's most urban areas, the lower Sandy River and the lowermost Sandy tributary—Beaver Creek—raises community awareness and commitment to restoration.

Local agencies have improved three large culverts in Beaver Creek and Kelly Creek, improving passage and opening up six miles of potential spawning habitat. We will be prioritizing outreach to people of color, including youth-work development groups like Play Grow Learn within the program area through a partnership with the City of Gresham.

Activities include watershed tours for Mt Hood Community College students and community members, riparian weed removal and native plantings, and public event outreach at markets and other venues to introduce residents to their role in protecting and restoring habitat in the Sandy.

Key Partners

East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Multnomah County, City of Troutdale, City of Gresham, Solve, Ecology in Classrooms Outdoors

Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

Sandy River Watershed Council outreach activities engaged over 500 volunteers and community residents through tours, tabling, planting, and stewardship activities around Beaver Creek and Kelly Creek.

Challenges

The lower Sandy and Beaver Creek areas represent the most populated and diverse human communities in the watershed. Both the pandemic and forest fire events diminished 2020 stewardship events. Outreach efforts shifted to digital channels, including social media, where engagement was strong.

Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

Sandy River Watershed Council is planning a range of stewardship activities, including cleanups, the continuation of "Stash the Trash" program—placing mesh bags at popular recreation areas along the lower river for visitors to use on demand—invasive species removal, and planting events, as well as consistent digital outreach to increase awareness and support of Beaver Creek conservation and restoration.

SRWC will work with the Beaver Creek Conservation Partnership to address and implement EPA Cold Water Refuge goals by re-invigorating vegetative restoration activities along the lower section of the creek, completing a volunteer restoration plan identifying sites suitable for volunteer engagement, and reaching community members through community events.

Original Start Date

07/01/2021

Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

Priority

- ☐ High
- ☒ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging



## **Project #8**

### **Project Title**

Timberline to Troutdale Cleanups

### **Project Category**

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☒ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

### **OWEB Grant Number**

NA

### **Project Description**

Sandy River Watershed Council organizes volunteer cleanups to collect trash from the headwaters of the Salmon River near Timberline and via a floating cleanup on the lower river. Cleanups emphasize the range of territory the Sandy covers, its popularity with recreationalists, and its sensitivity to degradation from microplastics and other litter.

### **Key Partners**

City of Troutdale, Oregon State Parks, Stout Creek Outfitters, Mt Hood Institute, US Forest Service

### **Previous Biennium's Accomplishments**

2019 was an excellent year for Timberline to Troutdale Cleanups. The Timberline cleanup expanded from a single site to four sites to become the "All Mountain Cleanup" with 350 attendees collecting 200 pounds of trash. Forty participants collected approximately 750 pounds of trash on the Lower Sandy Floating Cleanup.

Sandy River Watershed Council also piloted "Stash the Trash" in the lower Sandy in August, 2019. Adopted from a Clackamas River program, Stash the Trash placed mesh bags with sponsor logos at five parks along the Lower Sandy to engage park visitors in cleanup efforts on a daily basis throughout the summer. Visitors used 2000 bags in 2019 with similar counts in 2020, effectively expanding the T2T cleanup effort from one week to all summer long.

### **Challenges**

Both the pandemic and forest fires diminished 2020 cleanup efforts. The float had to be canceled altogether, and the All Mountain Cleanup was finally held in the snow in late October at a single site, where 50 volunteers collected 1000 pounds of trash.

### **Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables**

We anticipate resuming of the Lower Floating Cleanup and the full-scale All Mountain Cleanup (with three of the four sites in the watershed) in the coming biennium. The City of Troutdale has provided support to continue Stash the Trash on the lower river. Sandy River Watershed Council is working with Solve to create an Adopt-a-River program on the Sandy to allow individuals and groups to make a two-year commitment to keep sections of the Sandy clean on a semiannual basis, expanding cleanup efforts to year-round.

Original Start Date

07/01/2021

Proposed Completion Date

06/30/2023

Priority

- ☐ High
- ☒ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

**Project #9**

Project Title

City of Sandy Waste Water Treatment Plan

Project Category

- ☐ Restoration/Acquisition
- ☒ Stakeholder Engagement
- ☐ Technical Design and Engineering
- ☐ Resource Assessment and Planning
- ☐ Organizational Development and Management
- ☐ Monitoring

OWEB Grant Number

NA

Project Description

The City of Sandy is planning to expand infrastructure to absorb expected doubling of its population and to improve its waste treatment, the effluent from which has exceeded Clean Water Act standards and caused fish kills in its present outfall to Clackamas River tributary Tickle Creek. The city's plans include potential for an expanded treatment plant and effluent distribution that would send treated effluent to the Sandy River, potentially the largest single source of effluent in the current river system.

SRWC will work with the City of Sandy to identify and integrate green infrastructure and natural drainage approaches that limit or prevent effluent releases to the Sandy. We will monitor city plans for infrastructure and assist in exploring and planning sustainable systems that will protect the Sandy's temperature and water quality to the greatest extent possible. A subcommittee of our Board has been formed to help guide our efforts.

Key Partners

City of Sandy, Portland Water Bureau, Metro, Local residents, Trout Unlimited

### Previous Biennium's Accomplishments

The previous biennium's project accomplishments include the formation of a Sandy River Watershed Council committee to follow Waste Water Treatment Plant for the City of Sandy planning developments, the introduction of the concept of green infrastructure to the City of Sandy, and the provision of connections and resources to augment the more traditional chemical treatment plans underway.

### Challenges

In early 2021 we discovered that the planned site for the wastewater treatment plant had been relocated to an area that requires access over private land. Our original understanding was that there would be a nature park as a part of the development that could be enjoyed by the public with no fees attached. We now understand that the property owner of this new site plans to run his business, promoting recreation activities at the site, limiting public access and imposing entrance fees.

### Next Biennium's Planned Deliverables

The subcommittee that formed to lead our outreach efforts on this project has begun to attend City of Sandy public hearings and are developing a new strategy to reflect the new site needs for this Plant. There will be significant stakeholder engagement and a primary focus on how the council can help to develop a suitable approach to this new plant.

### Original Start Date

### Proposed Completion Date

01/01/2023

### Priority

- ☐ High
- ☒ Medium
- ☐ Low
- ☐ Emerging

## Wrap-Up

List the watershed council staff (or contractors), their roles, affiliation (staff or contractor), length of time in position (use the Qualifications space), and contact information.

Role	Name	Affiliation	Qualifications	Email	Phone
Sandy - Salmon and Sandy River Delta project coordination	Bill Weiler	SRWC Staff	25 years coordinating, permitting, and/or monitoring habitat restoration projects	bill@sandyriver.org	(509) 365-3972
MHCC Salmon Safe and Beaver Creek habitat restoration projects	Sara Ennis	Sandy River Watershed Council	20 years restoration and community engagement experience in the PNW including five years as SRWC staff member, project coordinator, and now serving as Deputy Director	sara@sandyriver.org	(971) 325-4224
Organization oversight	Kris Balliet	Sandy River Watershed Council	Over three decades of non-profit administration experience. Currently serving as SRWC Interim ED	kris@sandyriver.org	(907) 952-6470
Support Specialist	Evert Vermeer	Sandy River Watershed Council	Evert Vermeer is currently studying forest management at UC Santa Barbara.	evie@sandyriver.org	
Grant Support	Brian Tibbetts	Sandy River Watershed Council	Brian Tibbetts has a decade of grant writing and nonprofit management experience.	brian@sandyriver.org	(503) 519-2229

Did the council receive OWEB Council Capacity Funding in 2019-2021

- ☐ No  
☒ Yes

Provide a brief summary of the councils 2019-2021 restoration and stakeholder engagement accomplishments.

Sandy Salmon Phase I was completed in the late fall of 2019 and 25,000 trees and shrubs have been planted on the site. 35,000 native plants were installed at the Sandy River Delta, including restoration of sixteen acres, removal of invasives, and the planting of native species. In 2019, the council had a fall outreach season with successful completion of events including launch of Stash the Trash and Timberline to Troutdale cleanup events. The Timberline to Troutdale Cleanup expanded to four sites with 350 participants collecting 2000lbs of trash. SRWC also hosted twice-annual community plantings at the Sandy River Delta and regular stewardship events on Beaver Creek and at Mount Hood Community College until the pandemic hit. The total number of volunteers and community members engaged for the biennium was 1943. We also developed a robust digital outreach program via social media and digitally-distributed educational videos.

Provide a brief summary of the councils restoration and stakeholder engagement plans for 2021-2023.

SRWC plans to continue stakeholder engagement in-person as feasible in the coming biennium, with native plantings, invasive species and trash removal events, Stash the Trash, Timberline to Troutdale cleanup events, Sandy River Delta, Beaver Creek, and Sandy-Salmon stewardship, tours, presentations, and tabling. To increase very limited organizational capacity in this pursuit, the council will engage an AmeriCorps member to support both in-person and digital outreach.

Restoration work at the Delta will move forward with indigenous partners and contract crews focused on increasing riparian vegetation in support of maintaining cool temperatures and the Sandy's cold water refuge status. Sandy Salmon Phase II will enhance floodplain reconnection with improved flows and placement of large wood structures increasing fish and amphibian habitat, while engaging with stakeholders through a variety of means throughout the process.

## Budget

Item	Unit Type	Unit Number	Unit Cost	OWEB Funds	External Cash	External In-Kind	Total Costs
<b>Salaries, Wages and Benefits</b>							
Executive Director	Hours	1500	\$54.00	\$54,000	\$27,000	\$0	\$81,000
Sara Ennis, Staff	Hours	1000	\$45.00	\$45,000	\$0	\$0	\$45,000
Bill Weiler, Staff	Hours	1000	\$35.00	\$0	\$35,000	\$0	\$35,000
<b>Category Sub-total</b>				<b>\$99,000</b>	<b>\$62,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$161,000</b>
<b>Contracted Services</b>							
Americorps Member	Years	1	\$14,000.00	\$14,000 *	\$0	\$0	\$14,000
Outside contractors	Years	1	\$7,000.00	\$7,000 *	\$0	\$0	\$7,000
<b>Category Sub-total</b>				<b>\$21,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$21,000</b>
<b>Travel and Training</b>							
Project Mileage	Miles	1500	\$0.58	\$0	\$863	\$0	\$863
<b>Category Sub-total</b>				<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$863</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$863</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>							
Native trees and shrubs	Each	24000	\$1.00	\$0 *	\$24,000	\$0	\$24,000
<b>Category Sub-total</b>				<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$24,000</b>
<b>Equipment</b>							
Laptops, software	Each	2	\$1,250.00	\$2,500	\$0	\$0	\$2,500
<b>Category Sub-total</b>				<b>\$2,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>Other</b>							
			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Category Sub-total</b>				<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Modified Total Direct Cost Amounts</b>				<b>\$122,500</b>	<b>\$86,863</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$209,363</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$122,500</b>	<b>\$86,863</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$209,363</b>

\* = OWEB funds excluded from indirect.

Provide context and justification for how your budget was developed. Explain how project costs and/or rates were determined.

Our organization has been primarily grant-driven throughout its history. Most grant funds we receive have historically been designated as pass-through for contractors, with a small percentage devoted to organizational capacity. The OWEB Capacity grant provides for administrative and other organizational needs. Additionally, as we are in a restructuring period, and have no plans to make any permanent hires in the next year, we will be using contractors and volunteers to help maintain our momentum. Our budget was developed based on prior-year budgets for similar projects. We are also making educated assumptions regarding contractor hours and rates, as the organization has not utilized contractors in the past. We do not anticipate taking on any new staff in the near future, with the exception of independent contractors. We are anticipating the utilization of independent short-term contract staff and Americorps personnel to help fill our administrative and programming needs in the interim.

Does the budget identify a contingency amount for specific line item(s) within the Contracted Services and/or Material and Supplies budget category?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Explain the specific reasons a contingency is needed for each line item.

No contingency is needed

## Funding and Match

### Fund Sources and Amounts

Organization Type	Name	Source Note	Contribution Type	Amount	Description	Status
Local	East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District	Annual Council Support Funding	Cash	\$150,000	for the 21-23 biennium	Secured
<b>Fund Source Cash Total</b>		<b>\$150,000</b>		<b>Fund Source In-Kind Total</b>		<b>\$0</b>

### Match

Contribution Source-Type: Description	Amount
East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District-Cash: for the 21-23 biennium	\$0
<b>Match Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Do match funding sources have any restrictions on how funds are used, timelines or other limitations that would impact the portion of the project proposed for OWEB funding?

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

Do you need state OWEB dollars (not Federal) to match the requirements of any other federal funding you will be using to complete this project?

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

Does the non-OWEB cash funding include Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Funds?

- ☐ Yes  
☒ No

## Uploads

**Fiscal Policies:** [SRBWC Financial Management Policy - adopted 11-16.pdf -](#)

**Local Recognition:** [July 7, 1997 Sandy Council - SRBWC resolution.pdf -](#)

**Bylaws:** [SRWC-Bylaws-April-2020 \(1\).pdf -](#)



## **Permit Page**

No Permits have been identified for this application.

## Sandy River Basin Watershed Council

### Financial Management Policy

November 2, 2016 Board Review Version

*The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council's Financial Management Policy is based in part on the "Nonprofit Financial Management Self-Assessment Tool" in the Oregon Non-Profit Handbook, 2005. Sections include: 1) Financial Planning/Budget Systems, 2) Implementing Financial Data Management Policies, 3) Recording Financial Data, 4) Reporting Financial Information, and 5) Monitoring Financial Data Management.*

*In this document, the key roles are defined as the Board of Directors (or Board), the Executive Director, , and Fiscal Coordinator. The Executive Director and Fiscal Coordinator serve as Fiscal Staff to inform the work of the Board and draw input from other appropriate staff members such as Program Managers.*

*Throughout this policy statement, an asterisk (\*) signifies secondary written implementation policies which are listed at the end of this document. A clip symbol ( § ) symbol signifies reference to a listing of key documents produced by implementation of financial management policies. These documents are also listed at the end of this document.*

1. Financial Planning/Budget Systems: Consists of a strategic financial plan and annual operating budget ( § ) developed by Executive Director with support from Fiscal Coordinator.
  - i. The Annual Operating Budget is designed to be a comprehensive Annual Budget and includes all grant or contract revenue from funders .
  - ii. Fiscal Staff review all grant or contract proposals that are submitted to funders.
  - iii. Program Managers play an active role in the development of budgets for programs under their direction, including the identification of revenue sources to fund them
  - iv. A Board appointed committee (or, the Board) has a detailed understanding of the Annual Budget and reviews allocation of unrestricted funds.
  - v. The full Board formally authorizes the Annual Budget and revisions to the budget.
  - vi. The organization has integrated consideration of financial issues into strategic planning processes.
  - vii. The organization has a five-year plans for major maintenance or replacement of equipment, as appropriate.
  - viii. The fiscal planning process includes periodic assessment of risks and identification of insurance coverage needs/appropriate risk management procedures.

- ix. Risk assessment includes: general liability, professional liability, work product liability, fire, theft, casualty, workers comp, Board and officer liability, vehicle operation, fraud and dishonest acts, as appropriate to current operations.
- 2. Implementing Financial Data Management Policies. The organization will develop policies and procedures for fiscal operations including procedures for processing payroll (\*), purchases (\*), accounts payable (\*), and others as necessary. These policies are implemented principally by the Executive Director and the Fiscal Coordinator in service to the Board and are reviewed and revised not less than annually.
- 3.
  - i. Transaction processing shall be consistent with written policies and procedures.
  - ii. The practice of separation of duties is implemented to the greatest extent feasible within the limitations of the size of the organization staff.
    - 1. Authorization functions for purchasing, signing checks, adjusting accounts, and extending credit are not performed by individuals who also perform recording functions such as disbursements and/or receipts, maintaining accounts receivable records, or cash handling functions such as receiving and depositing funds or preparing checks.
    - 2. Review and verification functions such as reconciliation of the bank statement to the record of cash receipts and disbursements are not performed by individuals who also prepare checks, record checks, receive funds and prepare bank deposits and/or record receipts.
    - 3. Contingency authorization and recording procedures will be followed in the event of staff absences in order to maintain adequate segregation of duties during such absences.
  - iii. Payroll policies and procedures are clearly documented and consistently followed.
    - 1. Written authorization is required for all new hires and pay rate changes.
    - 2. Written timesheets are prepared by all employees, signed by the employee and approved in writing by the employee's direct supervisor.
    - 3. Forms W-4, I-9 and Oregon Department of Justice forms are obtained and retained for each employee. Upon separation, these forms will be retained by the organization for five years.

4. Policies regarding overtime, vacation time, sick leave, holiday pay, and other leaves with or without pay are written clearly, and reviewed regularly for compliance with state and federal law.
  5. All fringe benefit plans are documented and in compliance with IRS and Department of Labor requirements. The proper tax treatment for all benefits and compensation arrangements has been determined and documented.
  6. Responsibility for maintaining fringe benefit records in accordance with governmental requirements has been clearly assigned and records reviewed regularly by Treasurer
- iv. Written purchasing policies (\*) clearly identify the purchasing authority of each staff position, and establish appropriate dollar limits for purchasing authority at each level.
  - v. Cash handling policies and procedures (\*) are well-documented and tested periodically.
    1. Cash reconciliation sheets are maintained for all individuals responsible for accepting cash.
    2. Post-dated checks are generally not accepted, and if accepted, secured carefully until deposited.
    3. All disbursements are made by check except for small purchases of \$500.00 or less made with an authorized debit card transaction
    4. The Treasurer's account check stock is secured by the Executive Director at the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council. The Council Treasurer and Executive Director have account signature authority.
    5. Bank reconciliation is performed by someone who neither makes bank deposits nor prepares checks.
    6. Receipts are given for all cash transactions. If donations, donors are informed they will receive a year-end list of donations for tax purposes.
4. Recording Financial Data. These policies apply both to the Fiscal Coordinator, principally in service to the Executive Director, and ultimately the Council Board.
    - i. A complete written Chart of Accounts ( § ) with appropriate account titles and numbers for assets, liabilities, net assets, revenues and expenses shall be maintained current by the Fiscal Coordinator.

- ii. The Chart of Accounts clearly shows the programs which will be distinguished and the funding sources and/or distinct funds which will be tracked.
  - iii. The Chart of Accounts uses the same line item categories and the same program or function distinctions which are used in the comprehensive Annual Budget and the budgets for individual contracts or grants.
  - iv. Accounting policies and recording procedures are clearly documented in a written fiscal policies and procedures document (\*) that is maintained current by Fiscal Coordinator.
  - v. Appropriate computer software and hardware may be used to perform recording functions.
  - vi. Appropriate electronic and physical security procedures will be used to protect the integrity of computerized accounting records.
  - vii. Accounting records are backed up daily. Backup media are stored in a secure area away from computer equipment.
  - viii. Backups of accounting data are moved to an off site location at least monthly.
  - ix. Detailed records of grants and contracts receivable are maintained and reconciled to the general ledger receivables balances at least monthly.
  - x. All general ledger balance sheet accounts are reconciled at least quarterly. All cash, payroll liabilities and accounts receivable control accounts are reconciled to appropriate subsidiary journal monthly.
5. Reporting Financial Information. These policies apply primarily to the work of the Fiscal Coordinator.
- i. Monthly financial statements ( § ) are available no later than the end of the following month.
  - ii. Monthly financial statements include a Balance Sheet (with Changes in Net Assets) as well as Profit and Loss for each active fund and for the organization as a whole.
  - iii. Statements of Revenue and Expenses for each distinct program are prepared monthly, including the admin category for the organization.
  - iv. All Revenue and Expense statements for the whole organization, for specific programs, and for specific funding sources include a current month's activity, the fiscal year to date activity and a comparison to the year to date or Annual Budget by line item.

- v. The net Profit/(Loss) of support and revenue over expenses is reconciled to the change in Fund Balance between the beginning and ending of the accounting period.

6. Monitoring Financial Data Management

- i. The Executive Director and the program managers are responsible for review of the monthly financial statements produced by the Fiscal Coordinator.
- ii. The Fiscal Coordinator will highlight unusual items and identify potential problems in notes to the financial statements shared with the Executive Director and the Board committee or full Board.
- iii. A committee or the full Board reviews the monthly financial statements at each Council meeting.
- iv. The Board and Executive Director periodically review the organizations' financial statements to determine whether:
  - 1. The use of the organization's resources is consistent with the organization's mission and priorities.
  - 2. The organization is solvent, i.e., has assets in excess of its liabilities.
  - 3. The organization has adequate cash and other liquid assets to meet its current obligations and assure its continuing ability to pay its employees, taxing authorities and vendors in a timely manner.
  - 4. The organization is adhering to any and all restrictions imposed by funders and donors.
  - 5. The Board and the Executive Director are aware of the IRS requirements for maintaining tax exempt status and will continually evaluate the organization's activities, use of funds, record keeping, and reporting to the IRS to assure compliance with all requirements.

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(\*) References additional written policies as compiled by the Treasurer and Fiscal Coordinator

Policies for Charging and Collecting Fees  
Cash Handling Policies  
Payroll Processing Policy

Purchasing Policy  
Accounts Payable Policy  
Fiscal Policies (Full Cycle Accounting through Tax Reporting)

( § ) References specific documents as products of policy implementation:

Annual Budget  
Five Year Plan for Maintenance/Replacement  
Chart of Accounts  
Monthly Financial Statements (Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet; by fund, by total)  
Auditor's Report (every three years)<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> If Board authorizes audits.



CITY OF SANDY, OREGON

CITY OF SANDY  
ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT ARCHIVING  
COVER SHEET

FOLDER STRUCTURE

Council (Department)  
Meeting Packets

DOCUMENT NAME:

July 7, 1997 Council

DATE RANGE:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1995-2000	<input type="checkbox"/> 1975-1980
<input type="checkbox"/> 1990-1995	<input type="checkbox"/> 1970-1975
<input type="checkbox"/> 1985-1990	<input type="checkbox"/> Before 1970
<input type="checkbox"/> 1980-1985	

RETENTION:

<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permanent
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 years	

DISPOSITION OF DOCUMENT AFTER SCANNING:

☒ Return to Department files  
☐ Store at \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Recycle



# **CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**

**CITY OF SANDY  
39250 PIONEER BLVD.  
SANDY OR 97055  
July 7, 1997**

## **PAGE NUMBERS**

### **5:30 P.M. WORKSHOP - CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMISSION**

### **7:00 P.M. - COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **I. ROLL CALL**

#### **II. RECOGNITION - MARGARET HOLMAN**

#### **III. CHANGES TO AGENDA**

#### **IV. APPOINTMENTS**

A. Council President

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

(This time is set aside for public comment on items that are not on the agenda. The City Council also welcomes public comments on any agenda item at the time the item is discussed. When you wish to speak, move to the podium and after the Mayor has recognized you, state your name and address for the record.)

#### **VI. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- |                                                                                           |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| A. Approval of City Council Minutes for June 16, 1997                                     | <b>1 - 8</b>   |
| B. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT For Downtown Pedestrian Improvements | <b>9 - 15</b>  |
| C. Approval of Resolution No. 18-97, A Resolution Declaring a Public Necessity            | <b>16 - 20</b> |

#### **VII. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

##### **B. ORDINANCES**

##### **C. RESOLUTIONS**

- |                                                                                                                      |                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Approval of Resolution No. 15-97, A Resolution Endorsing the Formation of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council | <b>21 - 33</b> |
| 2. Approval of Resolution No. 17-97, A Resolution Recognizing the North Bluff Road Neighborhood Association          | <b>34 - 42</b> |

##### **D. OLD BUSINESS**

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Final Order and Findings - Sandy Lake Estates Variance Appeal     | <b>43 - 47</b> |
| 2. Approval of 1997-98 Council Goals and Changes in Council Policies | <b>48 - 54</b> |

**E. NEW BUSINESS**

**VIII. CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS**

A. Customer Service Reorganization - Concept Plan

**IX. COUNCIL AGENDA**

A. Reports and Comments from Mayor and Council

**X. ADJOURNMENT**



## **City of Sandy Staff Report**

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**DATE:** June 11, 1997

**TO:** Mayor & City Council

**FROM:** Scott Lazenby, City Manager

**RE:** RESOLUTION 15-97--SANDY RIVER BASIN WATERSHED COUNCIL

Councilor Allen has been representing the City in meetings with individuals interested in forming a Sandy River Basin Watershed Council. Such an organization can be an excellent forum for dealing with watershed issues.

The City has a clear interest in using the watershed as a resource. The City's future depends on its water rights on Brownell Springs, Alder Creek, and the Salmon River. The work done for the Sandy 2040 plan emphasizes the importance of the Sandy River as a receiving stream for treated wastewater.

Even in these areas, however, the City of Sandy has put a priority on recognizing the ecological importance of its namesake River. The City worked closely with the Bureau of Land Management to make sure that the Salmon River intake could be compatible with the goals of the Wild and Scenic River designation. The City of Sandy sponsored, and paid for, the most comprehensive study to date of water quality in the Sandy River. City Council members held numerous meetings with representatives of the Friends of the Sandy River and the Pacific Rivers Council to ensure that wastewater treatment methods and design for an effluent outfall would not significantly affect water quality in the River.

Just as important, the Sandy 2040 Plan shows little, if any expansion of the Sandy Urban Growth Boundary into the Sandy River Basin. Our plan supports and encourages the philosophy of no further development in the watershed.

While the City's goals probably don't line up exactly with those of all the members of the Watershed Council, I believe our areas of common interest far exceed our potential areas of disagreement. And as for areas of potential disagreement, the City Council has strongly supported the practice of seeking out and talking with groups that may be affected, whether good or bad, by City actions.

The Watershed Council will not require financial support from the City, with the possible exception of staff time in occasionally attending meetings. It will, however, require some commitment of time by a Council member or designee.

I have drafted the attached Resolution, based on resolution language suggested by Debbie McCoy. A Resolution by the City will provide "moral support," and indicate the City's interest in participating on the Watershed Council. To be official under ORS 541.388, the Watershed Council will need to be recognized by Clackamas and Multnomah Counties.

I would recommend two changes to the draft bylaws: 1) the U.S. government has a major role in stewardship of land within the Sandy basin, and I believe the Forest Service and BLM should have at least one voting seat on the Watershed Council; and 2) Tickle Creek is in the Clackamas watershed, and it is included in the Clackamas Basin Council's boundary. It shouldn't be in both boundaries.

These recommendations are not reflected in the attached draft Resolution, although the Council may, of course, amend the Resolution language. I believe they are minor issues, and don't affect the overall benefit of the creation of the watershed council.

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 15-97, and appoint a representative and alternate for the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council.

## **Resolution 15-97**

### **A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE FORMATION OF THE SANDY RIVER BASIN WATERSHED COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, The Governor under ORS 541.388 encouraged the formation of watershed councils for all major river basins ; and

WHEREAS, the Sandy City Council recognizes the Sandy River Basin as one of the most heavily used basins in the state. The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council feels that it is necessary to work with all governmental entities and maintain effective lines of communication; and

WHEREAS, The City Council recognizes that there are a number of governmental entities operating in the Sandy River Basin. It is the goal of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council to act as a unifying forum to coordinate activities and exchange information as well as participate in watershed programs; and

WHEREAS, The City of Sandy has supported the preservation of the Sandy River Basin by restricting the expansion of the City's Urban Growth Boundary into the basin; and

WHEREAS, The City Council has supported the protection of the Sandy River through support of national Wild and Scenic River (Recreational) designation for the middle section of the Sandy River; and

WHEREAS, The City of Sandy has a direct stake in Sandy River basin issues, including the City's water rights on Brownell Springs, Alder Creek, and Salmon River; and the City's planned outfall on the Sandy River for treated wastewater; and

WHEREAS, The City Council recognizes that the Watershed Council can serve as an important forum in addressing issues in the Sandy River watershed;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF SANDY, that:

1. The City Council hereby endorses the formation of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council--a Watershed Council under ORS 541.345. The Watershed Council shall be subject to the bylaws attached as "Exhibit A," or as amended.
2. The City Council may modify this Resolution any time, and may revoke its endorsement of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council by Resolution at any time.
3. The City Council acknowledges the mission statement and boundaries of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council.

4. No action taken by the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council shall be deemed to compel any action or modify the regulatory responsibility of any person or unit of government. As provided by law, the Watershed Council is advisory in nature

THIS RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL AND APPROVED  
BY THE MAYOR THIS \_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 1997.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
ATTEST

# **SANDY RIVER BASIN WATERSHED COUNCIL**

## **BYLAWS**

### **Mission Statement**

To protect the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the "Sandy River Basin Watershed."

### **Bylaws Definition**

The bylaws create a set of rules by which the council conducts itself in order to fulfill the mission statement.

### **Membership**

The Council shall be comprised of:

- Governing Board of voting representatives
- Advisory Council of non-voting representatives
- Participating members

### **Boundaries**

All hydrologic flows – surface and groundwater – that make up the Sandy River Basin Watershed, from the Headwaters of the Sandy River on Mt. Hood, which includes all tributaries and hydrologically-effected tributaries of the Basin, to the Mouth of the Sandy River where it joins the Columbia River.

## **Voting**

Voting representatives shall consist of:

Watershed representatives (16)

- Sandy River Headwaters (from junction of Zig Zag River to headwaters of the Sandy River)
- Upper Sandy River (from Mouth of the Zig Zag River to Revenue Bridge)
- Middle Sandy River (from Revenue Bridge to Dodge Park)
- Lower Sandy River (from Dodge Park to Mouth of the Sandy River)
- Zig Zag River Watershed
- Salmon River Watershed
- South Boulder Creek Watershed
- Alder Creek Watershed
- Bull Run River Watershed
- Tickle creek Watershed
- Cedar Creek Watershed
- Gordon Creek Watershed
- Beaver Creek Watershed
- Non-Tribal Representative (this position is for an American Indian who represents an organization that is not sanctioned by any tribal government, and/or whose views and interest in the resources of the Sandy River Basin Watershed may not be represented by any tribal government.)
- At Large Position #1
- At Large Position #2



## Government Representatives (8)

- City of Gresham
- City of Sandy
- City of Troutdale
- Clackamas County
- Multnomah County
- Community of Corbett
- Community Planning Organization (the CPO's within the boundaries would get together and elect their own individual Representative.)
- Tribal Representative (All tribes, such as Warm Springs, Umatilla, Grand Rhonde, Yakama, etc., who have treaty rights within or associated with the Sandy River Basin, will elect a Representative within themselves.)

## Industry Representatives (3)

- Industry (must be broad-based representation)
  - Industry (must be broad-based representation)
  - Industry (must be bread-based representation)
- A. If a voting representative is not present their vice representative may vote in their place.
- B. If a voting representative misses three (3) consecutive meetings, the Council may consider a replacement.
- C. If a consensus cannot be reached, action of the Council shall be instituted by a simple majority vote.

## **Quorum**

- A. An ordinary quorum shall consist of seven (7) voting representatives.
- B. A change in the bylaws will require a vote of two-thirds (2/3) or greater majority of the representatives currently in office, and participating (has attended one of the last three meetings).
- C. The Mission Statement cannot be changed without a unanimous vote by all voting members of the Council.

## **Elections**

Vacant seats of the:

- Watershed Representatives and Vice Representatives
- Government Representatives and Vice Government Representatives
- Industry Representatives and Vice Industry Representatives

shall be filled by a vote of the Governing Board.

## **Meetings**

- A. General meetings of the Council shall be held monthly at a date and time to be decided by the Governing Board.
- B. Meetings will be conducted under Oregon Open Meetings Law, in a businesslike manner, consistent with our Bylaws, and according to recognized parliamentary procedures, i.e. Roberts' Rules of Order.
- C. Minutes shall be kept and will be available for inspection.
- D. Sandy River Basin Watershed Council will notify the local newspapers or give other appropriate notices in advance of all meetings.

June 10, 1997

Mr. Scott Lazenby  
Sandy City Council

Dear Mr. Lazenby,

Please find enclosed information regarding the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council. With the assistance of Councilor Don Allen, this new watershed council has created the resolutions and bylaws necessary for formal recognition by the Sandy City Council.

Representatives from the SRBWC will attend the next regular meeting of the City Council on June 16, 1997, and we ask to be included on your agenda. We will ask the Council for formal recognition at that time. I hope you will take the time to review the enclosed information prior to the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie McCoy".

Debbie McCoy  
SRBWC

## **BEFORE THE SANDY CITY COUNCIL**

STATE OF OREGON

Whereas, the Governor under ORS 541.388 requested that all major river basins establish watershed councils and

Whereas, the Sandy City Council recognizes the Sandy River Basin as one of the most heavily utilized basins in the state. The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council feels that it is necessary to work with all governmental entities and maintain effective lines of communication and

Whereas, the Sandy City Council recognizes that there is currently broad based citizen involvement in the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council and they will strive to continually expand this involvement by working with individuals, community planning organizations, industry, economic, and all other interest groups and

Whereas, the Sandy City Council recognizes that there are a number of governmental entities operating in the Sandy River Basin. It is the goal of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council to act as a unifying forum to coordinate the activities and exchange of information as well as participate in watershed programs and

Whereas, the Sandy City Council recognizes that the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council deems it preferable to give people an informal atmosphere in which to participate in community watershed basin concerns which should facilitate citizen involvement and all those concerned and

Whereas, the Sandy City Council recognizes that the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council can act as a resource for the Sandy City Council when it comes to matters regarding the Sandy River Basin and

Whereas, the City of Sandy needs the input, not only from within, but from outside when it comes to matters of watershed preservation and should participate in this forum.

The City Council, being fully advised, is hereby **RESOLVED AND ORDERED** that:

I. The City Council hereby endorses the formation of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council - a Watershed Council under ORS 541.345. The Council shall be comprised of the following, of which the majority shall be local citizens:

Watershed Representatives: Watersheds [16]

1. Sandy River Headwaters
2. Upper Sandy River
3. Middle Sandy River
4. Lower Sandy River

5. Zig Zag River Watershed
6. Salmon River Watershed
7. South Boulder Creek Watershed
8. Alder Creek Watershed
9. Bull Run River Watershed
10. Tickle Creek Watershed
11. Cedar Creek Watershed
12. Gordon Creek Watershed
13. Beaver Creek Watershed
14. Citizen at large representing Native American interests
15. At Large Position #1
16. At Large Position #2

Government Representatives [8]

17. City of Gresham
18. City of Sandy
19. City of Troutdale
20. Clackamas County
21. Multnomah County
22. Community of Corbett
23. Community Planning Organization Representative
24. Federally recognized Native American Tribal Representative

Industry Representatives [3]

25. Industry Representative
26. Industry Representative
27. Industry Representative

II. RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council is to have the authority provided by statute for watershed Councils, and in addition shall be subject to the following:

1. The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council shall be subject to the public records and meeting law of ORS 192;
2. The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council may adopt its own bylaws for conduct of meetings, voting, appointment of officers, and similar matters, provided that representatives of state and federal government agencies and research and technical organizations shall be non-voting members, with the exception of those previously listed.
3. The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council shall report to the Sandy City Council annually as to its activities and proposed future activities, and the status of the Sandy River Basin Watershed; and it is further

III. RESOLVED AND ORDERED that those entities and categories of stakeholder groups listed above to be represented on the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council shall each have a Vice Representative; and it is further

IV. RESOLVED AND ORDERED that any representative or entity of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council may terminate their participation by sending a letter to the Chairperson of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council by indicating the effective date of their termination; and it is further

V. RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Sandy City Council may modify this Resolution and Order any time, and may revoke its endorsement of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council by Resolution and Order at any time. It is further

VI. RESOLVED AND ORDERED that this City Council acknowledges the mission statement and boundaries of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council; and

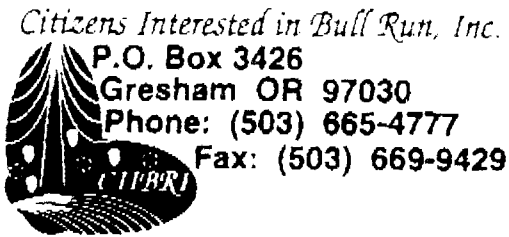
VII. RESOLVED AND ORDERED that no action taken by the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council shall be deemed to compel any action or modify the regulatory responsibility of any person or unit of government, as otherwise provided by law that the Council is advisory in nature.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1997.

Sandy City Council, Sandy, Oregon

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Chair



June 11, 1997

To: Mayor Linda Malone  
Councilors: Margaret Holman, Art Blaisdell, Caren Topliff,  
Donald Allen, Verne Buhler, Mike Hammons

Re: Resolution recognizing the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council

We have been active in the formation of the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council (SRBWC) during the past 2 years. It has been a volunteer effort by concerned citizens and others, who live in/use the resources of the Sandy River basin.

The Sandy River basin is one of the most heavily used of the Portland Metro area river basins. The Sandy basin has much to offer in tourism, recreation, fisheries, water resources and forest resources.

The SRBWC is off to a good start. We greatly appreciate your interest and support. We request your official recognition of the SRBWC by adopting the "resolution" - acknowledging the SRBWC, mission statement and the Sandy River basin boundaries. (resolution on Council agenda of June 16, 1997)

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Frank Gearhart, President

**Sandy River Basin Watershed Council**  
**By-Laws**  
**Revised April 21, 2020**

**ARTICLE I. Corporate Name**

The name of the corporation is the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council, which is incorporated in the state of Oregon as doing business as (DBA) Sandy River Watershed Council.

**ARTICLE II. Purpose and Mission**

**Section 1. Purpose**

The Sandy River Basin Watershed Council was formed to help identify and address watershed management issues and to provide a framework for the coordination and cooperation among key interests in the development and implementation of a watershed action program. The Council's goal is to protect healthy habitat, restore habitat conditions in degraded areas, support native fisheries, improve water supply and quality, and encourage community participation in habitat restoration activities. The work of the Council will bring together local residents, landowners, resource managers, and stakeholders to create and implement voluntary, cooperative projects, strategies, and policies that meet the Council's goals.

**Section 2. Mission**

To restore and protect the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Sandy River watershed and promote the enjoyment of the watershed for the diversity of stakeholders

**Section 3. Methods**

The Council does not rely on litigation to compel regulatory enforcement to implement the Council's mission.

**Article III. Boundaries and Accountability**

**Section 1. Boundaries**

All hydrologic surface and groundwater flows that make up the Sandy River basin originating from the headwaters of the Sandy River on Mt. Hood to the confluence of the Sandy and Columbia rivers.





## **Section 2. Accountability**

The Council is accountable to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, other funders of the work of the council, and the communities, businesses and individuals who live, govern, recreate and do business within the boundaries of the watershed.

## **Article IV. Members and Vacancies**

There are a maximum of 20 voting positions on the Council. There may be designated alternate representatives for every position who are chosen in the same manner and may vote in the absence of the representatives. The Council may elect representatives to open positions whenever an opening occurs.

The Council shall be comprised of:

1. Community representatives
2. Government Representatives
3. Industry Representatives
4. Advisory Council of non-voting representatives

## **Section 1. Watershed Voting Representatives (<10)**

**(Please refer to map in Article III)**

- 1 Sandy River Headwaters (from junction of Zigzag River to Sandy River headwaters)
- 1 Upper Middle Sandy River (from Mouth of the Zigzag River to Revenue Bridge)
- 1 Lower Sandy River (the Columbia River to Revenue Bridge)
- 1 Salmon River Watershed
- 1 Beaver Creek Watershed
- Up to five At Large Positions

## **Section 2. Government Representatives (7)**

- 1 Government: City of Sandy
- 1 Government: U.S. Forest Service
- 1 Government: City of Portland
- 2 Government: At large
- 1 Government: Multnomah County
- 1 Government: Clackamas County

Government agencies may elect that their Council representative serve as a voting or non-voting Council member and inform the Chair of their voting status.

### **Section 3. Business Voting Representatives**

Recreation (1)

Agriculture (1)

Forestry (1)

### **Section 4. Advisory Council of Non-Voting Representatives:**

As an inclusive group the Council welcomes broad participation and to be successful, requires guidance from a broad range of stakeholders including private citizens, large and small business and government agencies. The Advisory Council allows interested parties to actively contribute to watershed protection efforts without the commitment to serve on the Council itself as a voting member. The size of the Advisory Council is unspecified.

## **Article V. Officers, Terms and Duties**

### **Section 1. Officers**

The officers of the Council will be Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer elected by voting members.

### **Section 2. Terms of Officers**

All terms of office will be for one year or until the next annual meeting, whichever comes first.

### **Section 3. Duties of the Office**

- A. The Chair will preside at all meetings of the Council and supervise the work of the Council Executive Director in coordination with the Executive Committee. The Chair may appoint committees and may assign duties to other officers.
- B. The Vice-Chair will assist the Chair as needed and act in the absence of the Chair.
- C. The Treasurer will see that an accurate accounting of all monies will be kept in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles by the Council's fiscal manager. The Treasurer will report on the fiscal condition of the Council.
- D. Officers shall serve on the Executive Committee. The Chair may consult with and include the Past Chair on the Executive Committee.

## **Article VI Nomination, Elections and Vacancies**

### **Section 1. Nominations and Elections**

At the annual meeting in January, the Council will confirm Council members who have stated they are willing to serve. Candidates for elected positions will be nominated from among Council members and then elected by a majority vote of the voting representatives. In the event of a tie vote for the election of officers, the outcome will be decided by a coin toss conducted by a non-voting Council member. Officer candidates for election will be announced at least one month prior to the election meeting.

### **Section 2. Vacancies**

Vacancies of Council positions may be filled by majority vote at any regular meeting of the Council. If a voting representative misses three (3) consecutive meetings without prior notice or without arranging for their designated alternate to attend in their place, the Council may consider a replacement for the position the voting member represents. Members elected due to vacancies will serve until the next annual meeting.

## **Article VII. Meetings**

### **Section 1. Regular Meetings**

A regular business meeting of the Sandy River Watershed Council will be held at the least every other month, unless there is a reason to cancel a meeting. The Council follows the provisions of the Oregon Open Meeting Law.

### **Section 2. Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called by the Chair or by a majority of the voting members of the Council.

### **Section 3. Annual Meeting**

The Annual meeting will be held in January of every year.

### **Section 4. Notice of Meetings**

Written notice of meetings, draft minutes of the prior meeting and the agenda for the upcoming meeting shall be mailed electronically or by postal service to Council members no later than 10 days prior to the meeting.

### **Section 5. Voting Privileges**

All voting members as defined in Article IV, shall have voting privileges. If a voting representative is not present, their alternate representative may vote in their place. Votes may be conducted at Council meetings, or by phone or electronically if necessary.

### **Section 6. Quorum**

A quorum shall consist of the majority of filled voting members.

### **Section 7. Minutes**

Approved minutes shall be posted publicly on the Council's website.

## **Article VIII. Council Executive Director**

The Council Executive Director is employed by the Council and is responsible for managing the daily operations and work of the Council. This position is accountable to the Council through the Chair. The Council Executive Director attends all meeting without voting.

## **Article IX. Committees**

The Chair of the Council shall appoint committee Chairs. A committee will be designated as standing or ad hoc at the time of appointment. The Chair of the Council may appoint committee members. The Council Executive Director may appoint temporary operational committees to assist with the work of the Council.

## **Article X. Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the Council shall begin January 1 and end December 31 every year.

## **Article XI. Parliamentary Authority**

The Council's goal is for voting members to use a consensus decision-making process - which is a way of reaching agreement between all members of a group and finding solutions that everyone actively supports or at least can live with. However, this means that a single "no" vote can be used to block a proposal from being passed. Consequently, the Council will use a modified approach called "consensus minus one" which requires two "no" votes to block a proposal.

## **Article XII. Bylaw Amendments**

### **Section 1. Amendments**

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Council if a written copy of the proposed changes is included in the meeting notice. A change in the bylaws will require a majority vote of the current voting representatives. Voting members will be notified of a vote to amend the bylaws at least one month prior to a vote.

### **Section 2. Bylaws Revisions**

If a general revision of the bylaws is ordered, then the requirement for notice and adoption shall be the same as in the case of an amendment.

## **Article XIII. Dissolution of the Council**

Should the Sandy River Watershed Council dissolve and no longer act as stated in the bylaws a notice so stating will be sent to the State of Oregon, regulating authorities and agencies. Remaining funds will be used to satisfy any current obligations. After current obligations are met, any remaining funds will be distributed consistent with the 501(c)(3) bylaws.

## **Article XIV. Corporate Indemnity**

The corporation will indemnify its officers and voting representative to the fullest extent allowed by Oregon law.

## **Article XV. 501(c)(3) Status and Requirements**

### **Section 1. Organizational intent**

The organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational and or/or scientific purposes under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### **Section 2. 501(c)(3) Requirements**

No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distribution in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of this document, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an

organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contribution to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

### **Section 3. Dissolution**

Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose.

## **Committee Members**

Jamie McLeod Skinner, Jason Robison

## **Background**

The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee met on May 12, 2021. The committee discussed success measures for stakeholder engagement grants using an equity lens and received a brief update on the solicitation for a contractor to assist the board with its DEI work moving forward.

## **Measuring Success for Stakeholder Engagement**

The committee discussed stakeholder engagement grants and how to consider DEI as a part of reviewing those grants. The committee responded to questions including:

- 1) Looking at stakeholder engagement rules, what would be considered success for a project?
  - a. Sometimes success is a restoration/acquisition project not moving forward because of what was learned in stakeholder engagement.
  - b. A measure of success may be what was learned from the project that is new
  - c. Definition of success needs to be broad – awareness that something failed; if we've learned from it, adapted, and moved on to do better in the future.
  - d. Projects that add to the culture of learning among grantees and across communities.
  - e. Did this project build awareness/understanding/expertise in the community around DEI? Did the project bring new communities into the conversation?
- 2) Are we ok if a project doesn't 'succeed', but the grantee took all the right approaches? If so, do the measures of success identified capture that nuance?
  - a. Yes. How the engagement was designed matters. If the approach is designed well and impacts/improves how we do business or leads to innovation, that is important.
  - b. The lessons learned from a project may be the most important part. The best learning may come from unexpected outcomes. This will help OWEB learn as well.
  - c. Recognize that standard processes may apply across regions, but demographics are different. It is important to understand those nuances when evaluating grants.
  - d. Some projects may be more traditional. While it is okay to maintain the status quo in some areas, but it would be good to understand why in the application process.

Committee members would like OWEB to think of ways to incorporate DEI intentionally into the review of these projects. Is there a way to build the 'bubble diagram' to incorporate success concepts identified above? In addition, committee members would like to see new metrics explored for evaluation.

**To Be Presented at the July 2021 Board Meeting by:**

Jason Robison

**Staff Contact**

Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director

[Meta.Loftsgaarden@Oregon.gov](mailto:Meta.Loftsgaarden@Oregon.gov) or 971-345-7022



## July 27-28, 2021 OWEB Board Meeting

### Climate Committee Update

#### Committee Members

Bruce Buckmaster (Chair), Stephen Brandt, Alan Henning, Paul Henson, Brenda McComb, Jamie McLeod-Skinner, Eric Murray

#### Background

The Climate Committee met on April 1, 2021, May 24, 2021, and July 7, 2021 to discuss a range of topics. Topics included a debrief from the March board meeting; initial outreach to local partners about climate considerations; climate questions to be added to grant applications and a companion resources document to assist applicants; presentations related to work under Executive Order (EO) 20-04; climate related updates from legislative session; and climate activities in the 2021-23 OWEB spending plan.

#### April Committee Meeting

At the April meeting, the committee discussed “action on-the-ground, related to climate change,” means to them. Members expressed strong support for OWEB’s efforts to engage with the state’s climate work, and for OWEB’s commitment to incorporate climate considerations into the agency’s grant-making programs. They acknowledged that some uncertainty may be inherent to incorporating projected change into project planning, and that restoration and conservation is important to building climate resilience. Board members expressed a possible role for OWEB staff to help translate rapidly emerging scientific information and disseminate the information to grantees, as well as facilitating information exchange with policymakers. Members noted that carbon sequestration may be more challenging to address than the species and habitat adaptation needs under changing temperature and hydrological regimes. Additional tools and recommendations are likely needed to plan restoration and to be able to quantify the results. The committee discussed how to ensure climate related evaluation criteria that may ultimately be developed consider equity issues also.

The committee discussed the draft questions prepared to incorporate climate considerations into OWEB’s grantmaking. The committee was comfortable with the draft and encouraged further technical review, including by OWEB grant staff and reviewers. As scientific understanding improves, the questions may be further developed along with informational resources to help grantees address the questions.

Updates about work under the climate EO were provided by staff regarding the Oregon Global Warming Commission’s (OGWC) work to propose a goal for carbon sequestration on Oregon’s natural and working lands. Committee members encouraged the state team to incorporate references to urban landscapes and engage with partners regarding considerations about carbon sequestration in forests. Staff also provided an update about Climate Impacted Communities Work Group. The committee discussed the use of capacity funding to watershed councils and SWCDs to demonstrate the value of addressing environmental justice and community-based organizations’ funding needs.

#### May Committee Meeting

At the meeting, the committee heard a brief update about the status of OWEB’s budget, including potential funding for the Water and Climate position.

Staff presented on the OGWC's proposal for carbon sequestration on Oregon's natural and working lands. The committee discussed the concerns raised by landowners in the targeted natural and working lands survey and noted the importance of acknowledging and addressing these concerns when recommendations are implemented.

Staff then presented draft climate questions for OWEB applications and resources for applicants. The committee provided high-level organizational feedback about the questions, including suggestions to provide concrete examples. Looking forward, members suggested that staff consider how to capture climate related information at the time of project completion reporting. The committee discussed how climate-related resources can help OWEB applicants connect project activity contributions to climate resilience. The committee noted that while the climate questions in applications are only informational initially, future work will be needed to consider this feedback with the full board and assess how climate considerations can be incorporated into evaluation criteria. This would necessitate rule making. Staff noted that OWEB project activities generally promote climate resilience, so the additional consideration of climate resilience and mitigation provides even greater benefits. OWEB will keep this messaging at the forefront of communications on this topic with partners.

Staff provided a brief update about a June 2021 listening session focused on climate considerations at Land Camp, a biennial conference convened for Oregon and Washington land trusts. The session will provide space for practitioner feedback on addressing climate through OWEB grants, and for discussion of issues and challenges facing land trusts already doing this work. Since timing of the current OWEB Land Acquisitions grant cycle did not allow for incorporation of climate questions into this grant application, the timing is good for the Land Camp listening session.

## **July Committee Meeting**

At the meeting, the committee discussed several topics. First, they received a final update about the status of OWEB's budget, including funding for the Water and Climate position for which recruitment is underway. In addition, staff discussed with the committee opportunities for climate investments via the Governor's Priorities line item in the 2021-23 spending plan that will be presented to the board for consideration at the July board meeting. Staff also provided brief updates about status of the OGWC's natural and working lands process and the Climate Impacted Communities Work Group. The committee heard an update about the status of climate questions that are being added to OWEB applications. In addition, the committee reviewed and discussed the companion resources document developed by staff as a tool to assist applicants when they are answering the new climate questions. Committee members suggested additional outreach and technical support to applicants for future consideration, including: a webinar or 'road show' describing the new climate questions and resources document; support from partner agencies with subject matter experts to further assist applicants; and creation of a 'how to' document and/or video showing applicants how to walk through the questions and use the resources document. Responses to the new application questions will help OWEB gather baseline information about where different applicants are in their knowledge about climate considerations and if/how they are incorporating that information into projects, and understand where there may be needs related to outreach, information access, etc. Finally, staff updated the committee about feedback received at the June LandCamp listening session focused on OWEB's climate work.

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## **July 27-28, 2021 OWEB Board Meeting**

### **Focused Investment Committee Update**

#### **Subcommittee Members**

Bruce Buckmaster (chair), Randy Labbe, Mark Labhart, Gary Marshall, Dan Shively

#### **Background**

The Focused Investment Committee met on June 9, 2021 to discuss: the Rogue Forest Partners proposal to amend their FIP initiative geography, post-FIP reporting, a spending plan preview, and upcoming FIP and Partnership TA solicitations. The committee welcomed Dan Shively as a new member and recognized Bruce Buckmaster as interim committee chair, replacing Tony Selle who retired.

#### **Rogue Forest Partners FIP Initiative Geography Change**

Andrew Dutterer, Partnerships Coordinator, reminded the committee that any initiative geography change requires board approval. The request from the Rogue Forest Partners is in response to the 2020 wildfires. The partnership is seeking to adjust their FIP initiative geography to add the West Bear area and remove the Middle Applegate area to leverage FIP funding with other resources directed to the West Bear area. The West Bear area has emerged as a high priority for restoration treatments following the 2020 wildfires. In response to committee questions, Andrew noted that the partnership still plans to ultimately conduct restoration work in the Middle Applegate area despite the proposed change. The West Bear area is adjacent to and builds on an area addressed by the Ashland FIP. Bruce asked whether the land ownership type in West Bear is similar to Middle Applegate. Staff will follow up and include this information in the geography change staff report. See the Agenda item N staff report for a full discussion of the proposed change.

#### **Post-FIP Reporting**

The Committee intends to meet jointly with the Monitoring Committee to plan for post-FIP reporting, including a focus on ecological outcomes resulting from FIP initiative investments. While there is time to plan for post-FIP reporting since the first cohort of FIPs will not complete all of their projects until 2023 at the earliest, it is important to plan now to determine resources needed and to engage with partnerships in advance.

#### **2021-23 Spending Plan Preview**

Staff previewed the FIP spending plan line items considering the May revenue forecast that forms the basis of the state budget. With a significant increase in forecasted lottery revenues, the Board will likely increase spending plan line items at the July meeting. The increase may allow for more than the \$10 million for the 2021-23 implementation FIP solicitation included in the March spending plan preview.

#### **FIP and Partnership TA Solicitation Schedule**

The Committee reviewed the proposed FIP solicitation schedule, which will be announced following July 2021 board meeting and result in board awards in July 2022, pending Board

approval of the spending plan. The Partnership TA solicitation will also be announced following the July 2021 board meeting, with applications due in October 2021.

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## July 27-28, 2021 OWEB Board Meeting

### Monitoring Committee Update

#### Committee Members

Alan Henning (past Chair), Stephen Brandt (current chair), Molly Kile, Brenda McComb

#### Background

The Monitoring Committee met on April 7, 2021 and June 2, 2021 to: debrief from the March 2021 board meeting, discuss monitoring related agenda items during the July 2021 board meeting, hear status updates for ongoing projects, revisit the concept of post-FIP reporting, receive an overview about past and current monitoring investments that can inform climate change considerations, and discuss the observations of Alan Henning, outgoing chair.

#### Board Meeting Check-Ins

Looking forward to the July meeting, the discussion focused largely on the update about Stage 0 monitoring. Discussion topics included: exploring ways to advance the 'community of practice' concept discussed at the Stage 0 workshop in late 2020 and learning about key metrics that effectively track changes through time of restoration to Stage 0 conditions. The committee discussed of a second phase of investment in Stage 0 monitoring during the 2021-23 biennium.

As new Focused Investment Partnerships (FIPs) enter the program with the benefit of an already completed theory of change (TOC) framework, the committee is interested in a) assessing if supplemental FIP monitoring funding is needed and b) ensuring that potential FIPs have a well-designed monitoring approach that is informed by their TOC framework. The committee asked about findings from 14 years of monitoring as part of the Middle Fork John Day Intensively Monitored Watershed. Finally, the committee touched on the Willanch Creek 'Telling the Restoration Story' that will be presented at the July board meeting.

#### Status Updates about Ongoing Projects

At the June committee meeting, both the Conservation Effectiveness Partnership and Telling the Restoration Story grants were flagged as opportunities to continue to explore possible new 'success stories' with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Staff will raise this with colleagues at Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, given their ongoing update of the list of impaired water bodies. Regarding FIP monitoring, the committee discussed the importance of including questions in FIP partnership-level applications about monitoring and considering these during evaluation of proposed partnerships. The monitoring guidance developed by Bonneville Environmental Foundation was identified as an excellent resource to which to point applicants. Finally, the group asked for more information about Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) monitoring, including capacity challenges presented by COVID.

#### Post-FIP Reporting

After a staff update about input received to date from both the monitoring and focused investment committees, the committee underscored its support for staff exploring the concept of post-FIP reporting in more detail with 2-3 of the cohort #1 FIPs. Committee members asked that staff keep several points in mind: consistency across the post-FIP reports is important, opportunities to capture lessons learned related to climate change may be possible, and openness to exploring options for data analysis to find efficiencies while ensuring scientific rigor. Next steps will include follow-up with FIPs to scope what a pilot of post-FIP reporting

would encompass and a subsequent joint conversation with the focused investment committee.

## **Monitoring Investments with Relevance to Climate Considerations**

At the April committee meeting, staff presented an overview document outlining past and current monitoring investments that 1) help to track status and trends that can help articulate climate change-related effects in ecosystems (e.g., water flow, water temperature) and 2) have a direct connection to climate related considerations (e.g., soil carbon sequestration in tidal wetlands). The committee discussed the great value of this summary and requested that staff share it with the climate committee. They also asked staff to consider if findings from some of these monitoring projects could be shared with restoration and/or monitoring practitioners, along with sister agencies, to inform future work.

## **Insights from the Current Committee Chair**

At the June committee meeting, Alan Henning provided his observations since he will be leaving the board in July. Alan noted that the importance of monitoring to the board has steadily grown through time. He flagged the potential to build on existing monitoring for programs like FIPs to continue to grow understanding about the results of OWEB investments and ensure the agency is asking the right questions. He mentioned the importance of telling restoration stories and the opportunities to partner with other agencies and engage the public. He highlighted the potential for OWEB to partner with agencies such as Oregon Department of Forestry on monitoring and telling the story of ecological outcomes. Alan stated that OWEB is a well-respected agency that can get the job done, while cautioning that this demand of OWEB's involvement in a variety of efforts, such as water and fire initiatives, warrants consideration of workload. Ultimately, Alan noted that his role on the OWEB board has been one of the most enjoyable parts of his job.

Following Alan's comments, the committee discussed OWEB serving as a model and integrator, the importance of understanding workload impacts on staff, and the need for ongoing prioritization of staff capacity related to climate change as part of OWEB's work.

## **Staff Contact**

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## July 27-28, 2021 OWEB Board Meeting

### Water Committee Update

#### Committee Members

Jamie McLeod Skinner (chair), Barbara Boyer, Meg Reeves, Gary Marshall, Eric Murray

#### Background

The Water committee met on July 2, 2021. The committee discussed results of the 2021 Legislative Session in terms of water funding and policy items, checked in on an upcoming water survey, and reviewed a suite of recommendations from the committee for the board to consider at the October 2021 board meeting.

#### Legislative Update

House Bill 3293 was approved and signed by the Governor. This bill encourages communities to broaden their work to engage all community members in water planning by explicitly ensuring that funding can be used for engaging community members, establishing rules for water funding agencies to support this work, and establishing best management practices for communities who receive funding.

In addition, over \$530 million was awarded to a variety of water projects and programs during the 2021 session. This incredible investment came from both federal and general funds appropriated by the legislature. A summary of investments is in development by the agencies and may be available in advance of the board meeting, but a summary of planning funding is provided in the table below.

#### Draft recommendations for consideration regarding OWEB's role in water

The committee checked in on a set of recommendations for the board to consider as the role of OWEB in water and water investments. If approved by the board, these would become the workplan for the water committee moving forward. These recommendations will be vetted in more detail as an agenda item at the October board meeting.

- Providing encouragement to the state agencies to consider cross-agency decision-making structures when funding water projects.
- Providing examples of what the agency already does/funds that supports Oregon's 100-Year Water Vision.
- Thinking through whether the board might want to consider any ecological priorities related to water for project proposals based on input from the Vision.
- Identifying water investment gaps related to habitat and water quality and how those gaps could be filled – either through OWEB funding or a different approach.



**To Be Presented at the July 2021 Board Meeting by:**

Meg Reeves

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<b>Agency</b>	<b>Funding Summary</b>	<b>Cost</b>
OWEB	Water/climate coordinator	\$326,000
DEQ	Water data framework design	\$350,000
OWRD	Water supply feasibility studies	\$500,000
OWRD	To Oregon Consensus for state-supported water planning	\$500,000
OWRD	Support for regional water planning	\$200,000
OWRD	Support for 2022 IWRS Update	\$450,000
OWRD	Contract for statewide business case on the economic value of water	\$350,000
OWRD	Support for current place-based planning participating entities	\$200,000
OWRD	Support for new place-based planning	\$1,000,000
OWRD	BIPOC water planning & OWRD equity work; Tribal energy efficiency	\$1,500,000

**\$5,050,000**

This report provides an update about implementation of the 2018 strategic plan.

## **Background**

At this and upcoming meetings, the board will be provided with both general updates on plan progress, and more detailed updates as needed on specific priority areas.

## **Strategic Plan Update**

In June 2018, the board approved a new strategic plan. Beginning with the October 2018 board meeting, staff developed a template to track quarterly progress on strategic plan priorities.

Attached is the latest update of actions related to the strategic plan between March 2021 and June 2021. Other information on the strategic plan is also contained in the subcommittee updates.

## **Staff Contact**

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director, at [Meta.Loftsgaarden@oregon.gov](mailto:Meta.Loftsgaarden@oregon.gov) or 971-345-7022.

## **Attachments**

A. OWEB Strategic Plan Progress Report, March 2021 – June 2021

# Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Strategic Plan Progress

QUARTERLY PROGRESS UPDATE: March 2021-June 2021

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## Priority 1 – Board awareness of the relationship between people and watersheds

Strategy: Develop and implement broad awareness campaigns and highlight personal stories to tell the economic, restoration, and community successes of watershed investments

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Presented to the OWEB board about the Willow Creek ‘telling the restoration story’ – March 2021

Strategy: Increase involvement of non-traditional partners in strategic watershed approaches

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ N/A

So That: (Outputs)

- Oregon Lottery media campaigns have new stories every year of watershed work and progress.
- Local partners are trained and have access to media and tools.
- Local conservation organizations have meaningful connection to local media.
- Each region has access to public engagement Strategy that reach non-traditional audiences.

To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- Successes are celebrated at the local and state level through use of appropriate tools.
- More Oregonians:
  - o are aware of the impacts of their investment in their watershed;
  - o understand why healthy watersheds matter to their family and community;
  - o understand their role in keeping their watershed healthy.
- Non-traditional partners are involved and engaged in strategic watershed approaches.

#### Near-Term Measure:

- Fall 2018 Oregon Lottery campaign featured 6 partners from 5 OWEB regions with cumulative reach of 2,347 YouTube views, 30-second feature on watershed restoration has 2,003 YouTube views (accessed 12/10/2019).
- 54 articles featured partners and OWEB in the news (January -November 2019).

#### Potential Impact Measure:

- Increase in public conversation about watersheds and people's role in keeping them healthy.
- Increase recognition of landowner connection to healthy watersheds.
- Broader representation/greater variation of populations represented in the Oregon watershed stories.

## Priority 2 – Leaders at all levels of watershed work reflect the diversity of Oregonians

Strategy: Listen, learn and gather Information about diverse populations

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Continued to engaged Tribes the Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery Task Force process about wildfire impacts following the 2020 wildfires
- ✓ Completed the Interagency Climate Justice Survey for the Interagency Workgroup on Climate Impacts on Impacted Communities.
- ✓ Analyzed survey to board members to better understand their current perspectives on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Strategy: Create new opportunities to expand the conservation table

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ N/A

Strategy: Develop funding strategy with a lens toward diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Released a Request for Proposals to hire a contractor to facilitate board and staff diversity, equity, and inclusion training.
- ✓ Engaged DEI ad hoc committee to evaluate survey to better understand their current perspectives on diversity, equity, and inclusion. This information will be used with the contractor to better understand where the board can grow.
- ✓ Worked with the legislature to pass HB 3293 which clearly articulates the ability for funding agencies to support broad-based community engagement in water planning

So That: (Outputs)

- OWEB board and staff have been trained in diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).
- OWEB has DEI capacity.
- OWEB staff and board develop awareness of how social, economic, and cultural differences impact individuals, organizations and business practices.

- OWEB staff and board share a common understanding of OWEB's unique relationship with tribes.
- OWEB grantees and partners have access to DEI tools and resources.
- DEI are incorporated into OWEB grant programs, as appropriate.
- Board and staff regularly engage with underrepresented partnerships and stakeholder groups to support DEI work.

#### To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- New and varied populations are engaged in watershed restoration.
- Grantees and partners actively use DEI tools and resources to recruit a greater diversity of staff, board members and volunteers.
- Increased engagement of under-represented communities in OWEB grant programs and programs of our stakeholders.
- OWEB, state agencies, and other funders consider opportunities to fund natural resource projects with a DEI lens.

#### Near-Term Measure:

- Staff has participated in 365 hours of training (July 2018-August 2020).

#### Potential Impact Measure:

- ✓ Increased awareness by grantees of gaps in community representation.
- ✓ Increased representation of grantees and partners from diverse communities on boards, staff and as volunteers.
- ✓ Increased funding provided to culturally diverse stakeholders and populations.

## Priority 3 – Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds

Strategy: Evaluate and identify lessons learned from OWEB's past capacity funding

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Reinitiated discussions about scope for retrospective capacity monitoring in preparation for work during the 2021-23 biennium

Strategy: Champion best approaches to build organizational, community and partnership capacity

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ N/A

Strategy: Accelerate state/federal agency participation in partnerships

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Coordinated with Departments of Environmental Quality and Forestry to lead conversations across state and federal agencies related to post-fire recovery in natural and cultural resources. This work resulted in more strategic post-fire recovery investments and stronger cross-agency partnerships.

So That: (Outputs)

- Data exists to better understand the impacts of OWEB's capacity investments.
- Help exists for local groups to define their restoration 'community' for purposes of partnership/community capacity investments.
- Local capacity strengths and gaps are identified to address and implement large-scale conservation solutions.
- A suite of alternative options exists to invest in capacity to support conservation outcomes.
- New mechanisms are available for watershed councils and soil and water conservation districts to report on outcomes of capacity funding.
- A set of streamlined cross-agency processes exist to more effectively implement restoration projects.

### To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- Partners access best community capacity and strategic practices and approaches.
- OWEB can clearly tell the story of the value of capacity funds.
- Lessons learned from past capacity investments inform funding decisions.
- Funders are aware of the importance of funding capacity.
- Restoration projects involving multiple agencies are implemented more efficiently and effectively.
- State-federal agencies increase participation in strategic partnerships.

### Near-Term Measure:

- Under Development.

### Potential Impact Measure:

- Increase in indicators of capacity for entities.
- Increased restoration project effectiveness from cross-agency efforts.
- Increase in funding for capacity by funders other than OWEB.



## Priority 4 – Watershed organizations have access to a diverse and stable funding portfolio

Strategy: Increase coordination of public restoration investments and develop funding vision

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Coordinated discussions among agency water infrastructure funders and organizations representing community infrastructure providers to determine specific ways to improve access to water infrastructure funding and coordination among funding agencies.
- ✓ Finalized a survey to be distributed to water utilities to better understand how they use various funding sources and how those can be more coordinated

Strategy: Align common investment areas with private foundations

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Presented at a convening of private foundations to discuss opportunities for investment in priority post-fire recovery needs following the 2020 wildfires
- ✓ Met with National Fish and Wildlife Foundation about coordinated investment opportunities to address post-fire recovery and watershed health needs.

Strategy: Explore creative funding opportunities and partnerships with the private sector

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Met with The Climate Trust to discuss funding opportunities that may be available using carbon offsets for land acquisition projects.
- ✓ Met with World Resources Institute to better understand opportunities for private/public partnerships that address natural infrastructure investments in communities.

Strategy: Partner to design strategy for complex conservation issues that can only be solved by seeking new and creative funding sources

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ OWEB continues to serve as co-convenor of the Natural and cultural Resource Recovery Task Force, using recently completed post-fire assessments to prioritize key actions on natural resources recovery. A series of funding packages are under consideration by the Oregon legislature and the Congressional delegation.

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So That: (Outputs)

- OWEB has a clear understanding of its role in coordinating funding.
- OWEB and other state and federal agencies have developed a system for formal communication and coordination around grants and other investments.
- OWEB and partners have a coordinated outreach strategy for increasing watershed investments by state agencies, foundations, and corporations.
- Foundations and corporations are informed about the important restoration work occurring in Oregon and understand the additional community benefits of restoration projects.
- Foundations and corporations know OWEB, how the agency's investments work, and how they can partner.
- Foundations and corporations understand the importance of investing in healthy watersheds.
- Foundations and corporations consider restoration investments in their investment portfolios.
- Oregon companies that depend on healthy watersheds are aware of the opportunity to invest in watershed health.

To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- Agencies have a shared vision about how to invest strategically in restoration.
- Oregon has a comprehensive analysis of the state's natural and built infrastructure to direct future investments.
- Foundations and corporations are partners in watershed funding efforts.
- Foundations and corporations increase their investment in restoration.
- Natural resources companies are implementing watershed health work that is also environmentally sustainable.

Near-Term Measure:

- Increase in the use of new and diverse funding sources by grantees.

Potential Impact Measure:

- Increase in grantees cash match amount and diversity of cash match in projects.

- Increase in new and diverse funding sources.
- Increase in creative funding mechanisms and Strategy.
- Increased high-quality conservation and restoration projects are funded without OWEB investment.
- Increased funding for bold and innovative, non-traditional investments.

## Priority 5 – The value of working lands is fully integrated into watershed health

Strategy: Implement the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP)

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Received approval through from the legislature for the OAHP policy option package requesting \$5 million in other funds, allowing the agency to seek outside funding for OAHP.

Strategy: Strengthen engagement with a broad base of working landowners

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Completed a survey regarding natural and working lands climate solutions to timber and agricultural landowners along with conservation and natural resource organizations to better understand drivers for landowners/managers to sequester carbon/adapt to climate change.
- ✓ Facilitated focused discussions with a range of natural resource organizations and communities to better understand policy changes and incentives that could support increased carbon sequestration on natural and working lands
- ✓ Participated as a part of the Global Warming Commission team to draft recommendations for carbon sequestration on natural and working lands.

Strategy: Enhance the work of partners to increase working lands projects on farm, ranch and forestlands

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Developed a strategy to continue to engage with landowners/managers after completion of the climate survey to engage in focused discussions to increase carbon sequestration projects on working lands.

## Strategy: Support technical assistance to work with owners/managers of working lands

### In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Twelve Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) teams worked collaboratively with Oregon Department of Agriculture and other partners to define develop local monitoring plans and those plans have been approved by the Statewide Monitoring Advisory Group.
- ✓ Fifteen Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) teams worked collaboratively with Oregon Department of Agriculture and other partners to define goals and submit applications for technical assistance funding through OWEB's targeted SIA grant offering.
- ✓ Held quarterly call with twenty Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) teams and OWEB and ODA staff to discuss strategies for stakeholder engagement within the SIA geographies.

## Strategy: Develop engagement Strategy for owners and managers of working lands who may not currently work with local organizations

### In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Executive Director participated in annual Sage Grouse Conservation (SageCon) meeting with a focus on continuing to increase private landowner participation in conservation that improves sage-steppe habitat while supporting the local agricultural economy.

### So That: (Outputs)

- Local organizations have the technical assistance to address gaps in implementing working land conservation projects.
- Examples of successful working lands conservation projects are available for local organizations to use.
- New partners are engaged with owners and operators of working lands to increase conservation.
- Strategy and stories are being utilized to reach owners and managers of working lands who are not currently working with local organizations.
- Landowner engagement Strategy and tools are developed and used by local conservation organizations.
- The Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission has administrative rules and stable funding for the OAHP to protect working lands.
- Local capacity exists to implement the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program.

### To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- Generations of landowners continue to integrate conservation on their working lands while maintaining economic sustainability.
- Across the state, local partners have the resources necessary to better facilitate why and where restoration opportunities exist on working lands.
- Fully functioning working landscapes remain resilient into the future.
- Sustained vitality of Oregon's natural resources industries.

### Near-Term Measure:

- Percentage of landowners identified within Strategic Implementation Areas that receive technical assistance.

### Potential Impact Measure:

- Increased conservation awareness amongst owners and managers of working lands.
- A better understanding of conservation participation, barriers and incentives for working lands owners.
- Expanded relationships with agriculture and forestry associations.
- Increased engagement of owners and managers of working lands conservation projects.
- Increased working lands conservation projects on farm, ranch, and forest lands.
- Expanded working lands partnerships improve habitat and water quality.
- Expanded funding opportunities exist for working lands conservation.

## Priority 6 – Coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness

Strategy: Broadly communicate restoration outcomes and impacts

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Worked with partners in the Upper Middle Fork John Day Intensively Monitored Watersheds to publish an accomplishments report that summarizes findings and new approaches utilized since 2018.

Strategy: Invest in monitoring over the long term

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Worked with local partners to prepare presentation about progress to date on OWEB's investment in monitoring of projects intended to achieve Stage 0 conditions

Strategy: Develop guidance and technical support for monitoring

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Developed technical guidance for use by coastal restoration practitioners based on the OSU report about tide gate project implementation and monitoring, funded previously by the OWEB board.

Strategy: Increase communication between and among scientists and practitioners

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

Strategy: Define monitoring priorities

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ N/A

## Strategy: Develop and promote a monitoring framework

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

✓ N/A

So That: (Outputs)

- Additional technical resources—such as guidance and tools—are developed and/or made accessible to monitoring practitioners.
- A network of experts is available to help grantees develop and implement successful monitoring projects.
- A dedicated process exists for continually improving how restoration outcomes are defined and described.
- Strategic monitoring projects receive long-term funding.
- Information is readily available to wide audiences to incorporate into adaptive management and strategic planning at the local level.
- Priorities are proactively established and clearly articulated to plan for adequate monitoring resources that describe restoration investment outcomes.
- Monitoring practitioners focus efforts on priority monitoring needs.

To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- Partners are using results-based restoration 'stories' to share conservation successes and lessons learned.
- Limited monitoring resources provide return on investment for priority needs.
- Local organizations integrate monitoring goals into strategic planning.
- Limited monitoring resources are focused on appropriate, high-quality, prioritized monitoring being conducted by state agencies, local groups, and federal agencies conducting monitoring.
- Evaluation of impact, not just effort, is practiced broadly.
- Impacts on ecological, economic and social factors are considered as a part of successful monitoring efforts.
- Monitoring frameworks are developed and shared.
- Monitoring results that can be visualized across time and space are available at local, watershed and regional scales.
- Decision-making at all levels is driven by insights derived from data and results

Near-Term Measure:

- 14 outreach products were developed through staff, grants or partnerships (January-December 2019)

Potential Impact Measure:

- Increased public awareness about the outcomes and effects of watershed restoration and why it matters to Oregonians.
- Increased utilization of effective and strategic monitoring practices by grantees and partners.



- Improved restoration and monitoring actions on the ground to meet local and state needs.
- Increase in local organizations that integrate monitoring goals into strategic planning.
- Increased engagement and support of restoration and conservation activities.
- Increased decision-making at all levels is driven by insights derived from data and results.
- Increased ability to evaluate social change that leads to ecological outcomes.

# Priority 7 – Bold and innovative actions to achieve health in Oregon’s watersheds

Strategy: Invest in landscape restoration over the long term

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Held a quarterly call with the seven recipients of Partnership Technical Assistance grants, who are laying the groundwork for addressing landscape scale restoration.
- ✓ Bonneville Environmental Foundation completed progress tracking reports for each of the new cohort of FIPs.

Strategy: Develop investment approaches in conservation that support healthy communities and strong economies

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Supported the Tide Gate Partnership by continuing funding for a pipe-sizing tool to aid in the development of tide gate designs that meet regulatory requirements for fish passage.
- ✓ Supported the Tide Gate Partnership by continuing funding for the development of a funding decision support tool to help optimize funding for tide gate repair and replacement projects.

Strategy: Foster experimentation that aligns with OWEB’s mission

In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (Actions)

- ✓ Convened a listening session focused on climate considerations in OWEB’s grant-making as part of the 2021 LandCamp conference for land trusts and conservationists
- ✓ Finalized questions in OWEB grant applications to help better understand how grantees are connecting their work to climate adaption and sequestration

So That: (Outputs)

- OWEB works with partners to share results of landscape scale restoration with broader conservation community.
- OWEB’s landscape-scale granting involves effective partnerships around the state.
- OWEB and partners have a better understanding of how restoration approaches can be mutually beneficial for working lands and watershed health.

### To Make This Difference: (Outcomes)

- Multi-phased, high-complexity, and large geographic footprint restoration projects are underway.
- Conservation communities' value an experimental approach to learning and innovation.
- Conservation communities become comfortable with properties and projects that show potential, even if the work is not demonstrated based on demonstrated past performance.
- OWEB encourages a culture of innovation.
- OWEB investment approaches recognize the dual conservation and economic drivers and benefits of watershed actions, where appropriate.
- Diverse, non-traditional projects and activities that contribute to watershed health are now funded that weren't previously.
- OWEB becomes better able to evaluate risk.

### Near-Term Measure:

- 16.98% of Oregon is covered by a Strategic Action Plan associated with a FIP or Coho Business Plan.

### Potential Impact Measure:

- Increased strategic watershed restoration footprint statewide.
- Increased money for innovative watershed work from diverse funding sources.
- Increased learning from bold and innovative actions so future decisions result in healthy watersheds in Oregon.
- New players or sectors—such as healthcare providers—engaged to invest in watershed restoration, enhancement and protection.

This report provides the board an update about OWEB's online grant system improvements.

## **Background**

In 2016, OWEB launched its first online grant applications. The online application system is directly connected to OWEB's grant management system (OGMS). Since the launch of online applications and the subsequent improvements to OWEB's online systems overall, staff have provided the board with annual updates about enhancements.

## **Recent Improvements to OWEB's Online Systems**

Extensive improvements have been made to the online system content and functionality since the last update to the board in September of 2020. The improvements include:

- The addition of online applications for Council Capacity, Wildfire Impact Response, Bureau of Land Management, and Strategic Implementation Areas grants. Small Grants will be offered online after July 1, 2021.
- Ongoing refinements have been made to OWEB's existing online applications for restoration, technical assistance, monitoring, and land acquisitions grants, based on feedback from applicants, reviewers, and staff. These refinements include the addition of character limits directly after questions, responsive design of pop-ups and tables, and various other interface updates to improve the user's experience. In addition, effective this summer, several online application types will include climate-related questions.
- Ongoing refinements to OWEB's application review and management system, including a Quick Agreement Generator.
- Adaptation of existing 'dashboard' for internal OWEB staff for use by grantees, with additional functionality such as improved project filtering and a portal to the project completion reporting pages.
- New password security and reset functionality for the Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory.
- Migration of all OWEB web-based applications to a State Data Center.
- Successful completion of a Cyber Security Assessment in coordination with the state's Chief Information Office.

The 'Project Life Cycle' (PLC) initiative that kicked off in 2018 continues its work to leverage existing technology and streamline processes across the full 'life cycle' of a grant. The initiative is creating a more efficient, user-friendly grant management and reporting system that captures key information at the appropriate points in time. Most recently, significant progress has been made in process mapping and implementation of online payment requests.

## **Staff Contact**

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Renee Davis, Deputy Director, at [renee.davis@oregon.gov](mailto:renee.davis@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0203.

This report provides the board an update about OWEB's Wildfire Response Grants.

## **Background**

Following the wildfires in summer 2020, the OWEB Board in a special meeting authorized \$1 million in grant expenditures for wildfire response grants and delegated authority to the director to award grants in 14 fire areas to address short-term restoration needs on private, non-industrial lands that could not be met through other funding sources. Further analysis determined that one of the 14 fires, Thielsen, did not include eligible lands, so funds were made available to the remaining 13 fire areas.

## **Quick Ramp-up for a New Grant Offering**

Building on OWEB's long experience with the small grant program, a team lead by Kathy Leopold, Small Grant Program Coordinator, built a wildfire response grant offering with the following key components:

- Organizations in each fire area work together to determine a single lead entity to apply for and administer the OWEB funds.
- Proposed work is identified as high priority in a federally led assessment through FEMA, BLM, or the US Forest Service, or similar assessment if approved by OWEB.
- Proposed activities comply with specifications in accepted manuals of practice, such as the NRCS Field Guide, or are specified in a qualifying assessment discussed in advance with OWEB.
- Additional eligible practices include stakeholder engagement, assessment by local organizations, and log transport and stockpiling for future restoration.

The grant offering was made available on November 5, 2020 with applications accepted on a rolling basis through May 25, 2021 with funds required to be spent by June 30, 2021. Initially, \$75,000 was made available to each of the 13 eligible fires. Organizations in the Slater Fire decided not to pursue OWEB funding, so the funds were divided among the 12 remaining fires, for a total of \$83,333 available per fire.

Delays in fire assessments and subsequent determinations of need prompted to OWEB to extend the end date of project grants to December 31, 2021.

## **Summary of Wildfire Response Grant Projects**

The 12 wildfire response grants are summarized in Table 1 below.

<b>Fire Area</b>	<b>Grantee</b>	<b>Project Actions</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Brattain	Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council	Restore plant communities on rangeland to provide and improve forages for livestock and wildlife, reduce erosion by wind and/or water, improve water quality and quantity and increase carbon sequestration.	\$74,721
Holiday Farm	Cascade Pacific RC&D	Planned activities include continued assessment and development of restoration plans on private lands where landowners have signed cooperative agreements,	\$83,333

		coordination with federal agencies, and implementation of riparian restoration projects on private lands.	
Alameda	Rogue River Watershed Council	Conservation Cover and/or Cover Crop: used to reduce erosion and sedimentation, reduce ground, and surface water degradation, and improve soil health. Mulching: used to support other practices and to conserve soil moisture, facilitate the establishment of vegetative cover, and reduce erosion. - Woody Residue Treatment: used to reduce hazardous fuels, improve access for future management, increase forage for wildlife, and improve the site for natural or artificial regeneration	\$75,000
S. Obenchain	Jackson SWCD	Applicant proposes to: 1) seed 111 acres of dry pasture and 147 acres of upland and riparian areas reserved for wildlife habitat 2) fence 3.5 miles of stream to exclude livestock from sensitive riparian areas 3) treat 23 acres of riparian area with herbicide 4) cover 9 acres of exposed slopes and steep riparian areas with straw 5) assess and treat 1,822 acres of oak woodland and mixed conifer forest with post-fire hazard tree falling, thinning of dead or at-risk pine, and chipping thinned and salvage logging slash. Chipped material will be used as a soil cover. Additional funding will be used to complete fall herbicide treatment of Rubus armeniacus (Himalayan/Armenian blackberry).	\$83,333
Echo Mt.	Salmon Drift Creek Watershed Council	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Salvage log transport and stockpiling. On the ground work involves seeding as well as planting trees on fire ravaged properties to stabilize the soil and prevent it from entering the prioritized watershed areas. Steep slopes in the area and many intermittent and small perennial streams that drain to these areas necessitate ground stabilization with forbs trees, matting is needed.	\$75,000

242	Klamath Watershed Partnership	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Erosion control focusing on riparian areas, seeding, and fence replacement.	\$83,333
Indian Creek	Malheur Watershed Council	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Fencing to facilitate livestock management and protect fragile fire damaged riparian areas and rangeland sage grouse habitat.	\$83,309
White River	Wasco SWCD	Proposed activities include the post-fire assessment activities conducted by SWCD staff as well as herbaceous weed control and seeding to address post-fire erosion.	\$83,261
Archie Creek	Glide Revitalization	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Technical assistance to participate on local assessment teams and select restoration practices. The project will implement activities on private land primarily within the Rock Creek basin that will stabilize soil, prevent additional harm to streams, improve water quality and fish habitat. This will include site-specific prescriptions for each landowner that may include mulching, contour felling of dead trees, wood chip placement, weed control, placement of cover and conservation crop	\$83,010
Riverside	Molalla River Watch	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Technical assistance to participate on local assessment teams and select restoration practices. Salvage log transport and stockpiling. Weed treatment, and native tree and shrub planting.	\$83,333
Beachie Creek	North Santiam Watershed Council	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Technical assistance to participate on local assessment teams and select restoration practices. Salvage log transport and stockpiling for future restoration projects. Conservation cover planting, mulching, soil stabilization assistance offered to landowners include: spreading weed free straw along burned streambanks, spreading native and nonnative	\$83,332

		grass seed, and planting native trees and shrubs along stream banks.	
Lionshead	North Santiam Watershed Council	Stakeholder engagement to secure landowner commitment. Salvage log transport and stockpiling for future restoration projects. Weed treatment, mulching and other soil stabilization methods include spreading weed free straw along burned stream banks, utilizing weed free straw bales and wattles to slow erosion, seeding native and nonnative grass seed, and planting native trees and shrubs along stream banks.	\$83,332
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$974,297</b>

### Staff Contact

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager, at [eric.williams@oregon.gov](mailto:eric.williams@oregon.gov) or 503-345-7014.



This report provides the board an update about OWEB's 2021-23 budget situation and staffing, the legislative budgeting process as it relates to funding for water and fire recovery initiatives, and outcomes of the 2021 Legislative Session.

## Background

As described at the March 2021 board meeting, Lottery revenues have continued to improve following the COVID related downturn that began in spring of 2020. As a result, OWEB's budget and associated staffing capacity are greatly improved as we enter the 2021-23 biennium – approximately 10% over 2019 levels. As part of the agency's official Legislatively Adopted Budget, OWEB received funding for specific purposes, including 100-year water vision and post-2020 fire recovery needs that have been discussed previously with the board.

## OWEB's 2021-2023 Budget and Staffing

Lottery revenues are exceptionally strong. The May 2021 revenue forecast projected lottery revenue transfers to be up 6% from the previous forecast, and about 10% above 2019 levels. The "stunning" revenue forecast—as described by Speaker of the House Tina Kotek—helped set the stage for significant changes during the final six weeks of the legislative budgeting process. OWEB's operations budget (House Bill [HB] 5037) passed with multiple positions added or adjusted from previous biennia.

Adjusted positions include redesigned fiscal officer, administrative support, and information services positions. New positions include a Water and Climate Policy Coordinator and three staff positions (policy, grant management, and accounting) for post-fire recovery grants. Finally, the agency received a limited duration position that had been previously funded - the partnerships coordinator. The agency may receive additional positions in the 2022 short session if revenues continue to be strong.

Funding for OWEB's 2021-23 grants budget (HB 5038) increased also, as reflected in the proposed spending plan contained in Agenda Item F.

Finally, the agency was awarded \$19,750,000 in General Fund for a variety of specific post-fire recovery purposes related to the 2020 wildfire season:

- \$10,750,000 for grants for riparian and upland restoration and protection of water quality,
- \$5,000,000 for grants for floodplain restoration and reconnection, and
- \$4,000,000 for a grant to the Eugene Water and Electric Board for restoration and targeted acquisition of high-priority McKenzie riparian and floodplain properties.

This was part of a total \$600 million legislative investment in wildfire recovery and prevention package approved at the end of session.

While OWEB was not awarded specific funding for water planning beyond the water/climate policy position referenced above, the session was also very successful for water infrastructure and water planning investments. OWEB will be part of ongoing conversations that were funded during session including those related to regional planning, development of a data framework, a water business case, and work on the state's Integrated Water Resources Strategy.

## Outcomes from the 2021 Legislative Session

Throughout session, staff tracked multiple bills with relevance to OWEB and periodically updated the board. Below is a brief summary of the outcomes of these bills.

- HB 2257, which would allocated funding to the Oregon Water Resources Department (WRD) for establishment of a Conservation Reserve Program focused on groundwater conservation in Harney County, was addressed instead through funding added to WRD's budget. This is further discussed in the memo from Jason Miner addressed in Agenda Item F.
- HB 2722, which would have explicitly engaged OWEB in wildfire risk reduction, did not move.
- HB 3160, which would establish an Oregon Wildfire Preparedness and Community Protection Fund and utilize OWEB for grant-making for a percentage of these funds, did not pass.
- HB 3293, which advances investments to engage disproportionately impacted communities in community water planning, became law on 6/10/21.
- SB 286, which identified a role for OWEB and several other agencies to coordinate on climate impacts to impacted communities, did not pass.

At the July 2021 board meeting, staff will be available to answer questions from the board about these bills.

## Staff Contact

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Renee Davis, Deputy Director, at [renee.davis@oregon.gov](mailto:renee.davis@oregon.gov) or 971-345-7231 or Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director, at [meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov](mailto:meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov) or 971-345-7022.



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*Agenda Item supports all elements of OWEB's strategic plan*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item F – 2021-2023 OWEB Spending Plan  
Jul 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This report provides the 2021-23 Spending Plan for board review and approval based on both feedback from the March board meeting and the May revenue forecast for the Oregon Lottery, along with recaptured funds from the previous biennium.

### II. Background

After the Oregon Legislature approves OWEB's budget at the beginning of each biennium, the board considers and approves a spending plan for the distribution of grant funding. The OWEB Spending Plan guides the agency's grant investments for the biennium. Available funding for the board to distribute includes Measure 76 Lottery, federal, and other funds, such as salmon license plate revenues. The bulk of OWEB's funding comes from two major sources: Measure 76 Lottery and the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF). "Other funds" can include a variety of funding sources approved by the legislature, such as funding from settlement agreements, or funds transferred from another agency to OWEB.

### III. 2021-23 Spending Plan Development

Based on the May 2021 revenue forecast, staff are proposing a total of just under \$114 million to be available for grant distribution through Measure 76 Lottery Funds and PCSRF funding over the course of the biennium. For reference, currently in 2019, the spending plan was \$105 million (prior to Lottery revenue decreases in May 2020). For Lottery funding, this amount is dependent on revenues received from Lottery distributions. For PCSRF funding, Oregon was successful in receiving a 2021 grant like the amount received in 2020. Additions to the spending plan in July 2022 will be dependent on OWEB's successful receipt of additional PCSRF funding through the competitive federal grant process.

In December 2020, the board was updated on the process and timeline for approving the 2021-23 Spending Plan. In March 2021, the board discussed spending plan categories and provided feedback on the proposed percentages allotted to each category. At the same time, the board received a presentation and had the opportunity to provide feedback on all spending plan line items except those that are directly awarded to other agencies and

organizations. An update about those items will be provided at the July 2021 board meeting, along with staff-proposed changes to the spending plan between March and July.

#### **IV. PCSRF Funding**

Since 2000, approximately one-third of OWEB's funding has been provided through the competitive PCSRF grant process, which is offered by NOAA Fisheries. Oregon has received more than \$236 million from PCSRF for salmon and steelhead recovery efforts in that time. On an annual basis, OWEB applies for PCSRF funding on behalf of the State of Oregon. Oregon provides the required 33% match through a combination of lottery funding, salmon license plate revenues, and funding from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

NOAA has awarded the state \$14.775 million in PCSRF funding for FFY 2021. This award is nearly as large as the FFY 2020 award of \$15 million. The slightly reduced award is largely because other states' applications have become increasingly competitive. The change affected the funding available to individual state grantees, given that the total available PCSRF funding for FFY 21 did not increase.

Of the total award, nearly \$6 million is available for grants in the 2021-23 spending plan, with the remainder invested in support of OWEB staff costs, distributed to ODFW for programs described below, or held in reserve for future spending plans. OWEB anticipates another approximately \$6 million in PCSRF funding for FFY 2022.

#### **V. Spending Plan 'Governor Directed' and 'Funds Transferred From/To Other Agencies'**

The spending plan contains a range of items, many of which were presented to the board at the March 2021 meeting. Three others listed under the 'Other – Governor Directed' and 'Funds Transferred From/To Other Agencies' categories in the spending plan, will be presented at the July 2021 board meeting. These include:

**Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP)** – LCEP is a two-state, public-private National Estuary Program (NEP) created by the Governors of Oregon and Washington and the Environmental Protection Agency in 1995 to focus on the 146 miles of the lower Columbia River. LCEP needs state matching funds to complement federal funding received through the NEP. OWEB funds to LCEP will support riparian and habitat restoration in the watershed.

**Sage-grouse Conservation Partnership** – Funding for this line item continues investment in key coordination and collaborative governance to support statewide planning and coordination, and local implementation. The partnership addresses the health of Oregon's sage-steppe ecosystem, rural community vitality, and threats to habitat and wildlife, while advancing economic development within a conservation framework.

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)** – A portion of the PCSRF funds are legislatively directed to be transferred to ODFW. The amount of funding transferred depends on the State of Oregon's successful receipt of PCSRF funding through NOAA's competitive grant process. Eligible uses of PCSRF funds, based on NOAA recovery priorities, include restoration, technical assistance, and monitoring. For the 2021-2023 biennium, the following ODFW programs are proposed to receive PCSRF funding: Fish Screening and

Passage Program, [Lower Columbia River Harvest Management Program](#), Conservation and Recovery Plan Implementation and Technical Support Program, [Chum Recovery Program](#), and the [Oregon Plan Fish and Habitat Monitoring Program](#).

In addition, the spending plan includes two other line items in the 'Funds Transferred From/To Other Agencies': **Forest Collaboratives** and the **Upper Middle Fork John Day Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW)**. Forest Collaborative technical assistance grants fund local forest collaboratives to increase restoration efforts on federal forests statewide. 2021-2023 will be the fourth biennium in which OWEB has implemented the Forest Collaborative technical assistance grant program on behalf of Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). OWEB staff work collaboratively with ODF staff to set grant offerings, develop application materials, and review grant applications. The Upper Middle Fork John Day River IMW is designed to evaluate the implementation of watershed restoration projects over a large geography and extended period to describe the collective benefits provided to salmon and steelhead populations, habitat, and water quality. Funders historically have included NOAA Fisheries, via the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and OWEB, among others. Partners in the IMW have conducted work in a coordinated fashion to evaluate and document watershed restoration actions and ecological conditions since 2008. In May 2021, partners published an accomplishments report to provide an update on monitoring efforts since the completion of a comprehensive 10-year synthesis report that was presented to the board in January 2018. The accomplishments report summarizing an overview of the findings and new monitoring approaches is included in Attachment E. Ongoing monitoring supported by PSMFC funding during the 2021-23 biennium includes fish monitoring by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; stream temperature, streamflow, and macroinvertebrate monitoring by the North Fork John Day Watershed Council; and streamflow monitoring and website support by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs.

## **VI. Recommended Spending Plan Changes**

Changes to the spending plan are outlined in Attachments A-D. Attachment A outlines how the agency arrived at the total spending plan amounts available. Attachment B is the proposed spending plan. Attachment C describes increases since March based on an increased Lottery forecast and other identified factors. Attachment D outlines any specific requests to delegate authority for distribution of certain funding to the executive director. All attachments will be reviewed with the board during the spending plan presentation.

As noted in Attachment A, staff are proposing to hold some funds in reserve for addition to the spending plan at a subsequent meeting, or to be held for the 2023-25 biennium. This is slightly different than the typical process in previous biennia. Staff propose to hold funds for three main reasons:

- The increase between the 2019 and 2021 proposed spending plans is nearly \$9 million, even without the addition of the reserve funds. If reserve funds were added, the spending plan increase since 2019 would be over \$14 million. This is a large increase, so holding a portion in reserve provides a buffer for unforeseen circumstances.

- Several categories of the spending plan have less certainty about demand when compared to previous biennia, including acquisitions and focused investments.
- While not ripe at this time, discussions surrounding pressing water challenges in the Klamath Basin may result in a request for funding to OWEB later in the biennium.

## **I. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board approve requests in the 'Other Funding Received and Delegated' and '2021 Spending Plan' columns of Attachment B: Proposed OWEB 2021-23 Spending Plan. The '2022 Spending Plan' column will not be approved until July 2022 to adjust for any additional or reduced revenues.

Staff recommend the board approve tables 1-3 of Attachment D regarding spending plan policy decisions, carry forward, and delegation authorities for the spending plan.

Staff recommend the board approve that all funds recaptured from grants in the weed grant, small grant and FIP implementation programs remain in those programs for future granting using policies established for the program.

## **II. Attachments**

- A. Summary of Funding Available and in Reserve
- B. Proposed 2021-23 Spending Plan
- C. Summary of Changes Proposed from March 2021 Spending Plan Draft
- D. 2021-23 Spending Plan Carry Forward, Funding Approvals, and Delegation Recommendations
- E. Upper Middle Fork John Day Intensively Monitored Watershed summary
- F. Governor's Priorities Memo

## Funds Available and Held in Reserve

	Funds Placed in Spending Plan				Funds Held in Reserve	Notes
	Beginning Balance	2021 funding	Recapture	2022 funding		
<b>M76 Lottery Funds</b>	\$ 19.632	\$ 79.661			\$ 2.739	
<b>PCSRF Funds</b>	\$ 2.300	\$ 5.960		\$ 5.940	\$ 2.576	2023 budget allows for 4.3m in 2022 funding and can go higher
<b>Salmon Plate Funds</b>	\$ -	\$ 0.375				
<b>Other Funds</b>						
- NRCS		\$ 4.000				From NRCS to support program
- PacifiCorps						will be added once funding is confirmed
- Idaho Power						will be added once funding is confirmed
<b>Totals by category</b>	\$ 21.932	\$ 89.996	\$ -	\$ 5.940	\$ 5.315	
<b>Total For Spending Plan or Held in Reserve</b>	\$ 117.868				\$ 5.315	

OTHER FU

	2021-2023 Proposed SPENDING PLAN for M76, GF & PCSRF Funds	2021 Spending Plan	2022 Spending Plan	July 2021 Board Awards	Remaining Spending Plan after Awards To- Date	Other Funding Received & Delegated	Holding Acct Balance 6/28/21	TOTAL M76/GF/ PCSRF Awards	TOTAL Awards To-Date
1	<b>Open Solicitation:</b>								
2	Restoration	32.000	33.500		33.500	0.460	1.845	0.000	2.305
3	Fire Recovery & Restoration								
4	Riparian/upland rest. & water quality	10.750	10.750						
5	Floodplain restoration & reconnection	5.000	5.000						
6	Technical Assistance								
7	Restoration TA	3.000	4.500		4.500			0.000	0.000
8	CREP TA	1.200	1.200	1.200	0.000	0.400	0.140	1.200	1.740
9	Stakeholder Engagement	2.250	2.250		2.250	0.000		0.000	0.000
10	Monitoring grants	4.250	4.250		4.250	0.000		0.000	0.000
11	Land and Water Acquisition								
12	Acquisition	9.000	10.000		10.000	0.000		0.000	0.000
13	Weed Grants	3.250	3.250	3.250	0.000	0.000		3.250	3.250
14	Small Grants	2.800	2.800	2.800	0.000	0.000		2.800	2.800
15	Quantifying Outputs and Outcomes	1.000	1.000	0.150	0.850	0.000		0.150	0.150
16	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74.500</b>	<b>78.500</b>	<b>7.400</b>	<b>55.350</b>	<b>0.860</b>	<b>1.985</b>	<b>7.400</b>	<b>8.260</b>
17	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>60.80%</b>						<b>16.83%</b>
18	<b>Focused Investments:</b>								
19	Deschutes	1.915	1.915	1.915	0.000	0.000	0.001	1.915	1.916
20	Willamette Mainstem Anchor Habitat	1.400	1.400	1.400	0.000	0.000	0.004	1.400	1.404
21	Harney Basin Wetlands	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.000	0.000		0.100	0.100
22	Upper Grande Ronde	0.466	0.466	0.466	0.000	0.000	1.793	0.466	2.259
23	John Day Partnership	4.000	4.000	4.000	0.000	0.000		4.000	4.000
24	Baker Sage Grouse	2.435	2.435	2.435	0.000	0.000	0.040	2.435	2.475
25	Warner Aquatic Habitat	2.293	2.293	2.293	0.000	0.000		2.293	2.293
26	Rogue Forest Rest. Ptnrshp	2.700	2.700	2.700	0.000	0.000		2.700	2.700
27	Clackamas Partnership	3.082	3.082	3.082	0.000	0.000	0.010	3.082	3.092
28	New FIP Solicitation	10.000	10.000	0.000	10.000	0.000		0.000	0.000
29	FI Effectiveness Monitoring	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.000	0.000		0.750	0.750
30	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>29.141</b>	<b>19.141</b>	<b>10.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>1.848</b>	<b>19.141</b>	<b>20.989</b>
31	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>22.57%</b>						<b>42.76%</b>
32	<b>Operating Capacity:</b>								
33	Capacity grants (WC/SWCD)	15.121	15.121	15.121	0.000	0.000		15.121	15.121
34	Statewide org partnership support	0.225	0.425	0.225	0.200	0.000		0.225	0.225
35	Organizational Collaboration	0.500	0.500	0.129	0.371	0.000		0.129	0.129
36	Partnership Technical Assistance	1.500	1.500		1.500	0.000		0.000	0.000
37	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17.346</b>	<b>17.546</b>	<b>15.475</b>	<b>2.071</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>15.475</b>	<b>15.475</b>
38	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>13.59%</b>						<b>31.53%</b>
39	<b>Other:</b>								
40	CREP	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.000	0.000		0.750	0.750
41	Governor's Priorities	1.000	1.000	0.800	0.200	0.000		0.800	0.800
42	Strategic Implementation Areas	1.500	1.500	1.500	0.000	0.000	0.626	1.500	2.126
44	Gov. directed - Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	0.330	0.330	0.330	0.000	0.000		0.330	0.330
45	Gov. directed - Sage Grouse Conservation Partnership	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.000	0.000		0.350	0.350
46	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.930</b>	<b>3.930</b>	<b>3.730</b>	<b>0.200</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.626</b>	<b>3.730</b>	<b>4.356</b>
47	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>		<b>3.04%</b>						<b>8.88%</b>
44	<b>TOTAL OWEB Spending Plan</b>	<b>124.918</b>	<b>129.118</b>	<b>45.746</b>	<b>67.622</b>	<b>0.860</b>	<b>4.459</b>	<b>45.746</b>	<b>49.080</b>
45	<b>Funds transferred from/to other agencies</b>								
46	Transfer to ODFW - PCSRF	12.884	12.884	12.884	0.000	0.000		12.884	12.884
47	Transfer to Eugene Water & Electric Board - GF	4.000	4.000	4.000	0.000	0.000		4.000	
48	Transfer from ODF for Forest Health Collaboratives - OF	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.000	0.500		0.500	1.000
49	Transfer from PSMFC - IMW - OF	0.600	0.600	0.000	0.600	0.600		0.000	0.600
50	transfer from NRCS - Farm Bill technical support - FF						0.013		
51	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17.984</b>	<b>17.984</b>	<b>17.384</b>	<b>0.600</b>	<b>1.100</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>17.384</b>	<b>14.484</b>
52	<b>TOTAL Including OWEB Spending Plan and Other Directed Funds</b>	<b>142.902</b>	<b>147.102</b>	<b>63.130</b>	<b>68.222</b>	<b>1.960</b>	<b>4.459</b>	<b>63.130</b>	<b>63.564</b>



## Summary of Changes Proposed from March 2021 Spending Plan Draft

<b>Restoration grants</b>	Increase of \$2.0 million	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Technical Assistance Grants</b>	Increase of \$1.0 million	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>CREP Technical Assistance</b>	Increase of \$400,000	Funds received from NRCS as the partner agency to support this line item
<b>Stakeholder Engagement</b>	Increase of \$500,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Acquisitions</b>	Increase of \$500,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Open Solicitation Monitoring</b>	Increase of \$500,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Quantifying Outputs and Outcomes</b>	Increase of \$250,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Focused Investment Partnerships</b>	Increase of \$2.0 million	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Focused Investment Effectiveness Monitoring</b>	Increase of \$250,000	Additional funding to meet board expectations for FIP monitoring
<b>Statewide Organizational Partnership</b>	Increase of \$25,000	Based on board recommendation in March, increased support for local organization training & development
<b>Organizational Collaboration</b>	Increase of \$200,000	Additional funding to meet program Demand
<b>Governor's Priorities</b>	No increase	Shifting funding based on Governor's Memo: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harney CREP – from \$500,000 to \$0</li> <li>• Climate – from \$125,000 to \$350,000</li> <li>• Fire recovery – from \$375,000 to \$350,000</li> <li>• Tide gates – from \$0 to \$150,000</li> </ul>

## 2021-23 Spending Plan: Carry Forward, Funding Approvals, and Delegation Recommendations

**Table 1. Carry Forward**

*Carry forward amounts as indicated through June 30, 2023.*

Program	Carry Forward Amount	Explanation
Small Grants	Carry forward up to \$500,000	Using new reallocation methodology, funds will be redistributed to qualified small grant teams in 2022
<b>Total carry forward:</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	

**Table 2. Spending Plan Associated Board Approval Requests**

*Approve receipt of funds from other sources as outlined.*

Program	Policy or Funding Approval Request	Background
<b>Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW)</b>	Accept up to \$600,000 of other funding to support the IMW Program	Reflects maximum amount expected to be received during the 2021-23 biennium from Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) in support of the Upper Middle Fork John Day IMW
<b>BLM Aquatic Restoration Grants</b>	Accept up to \$999,000 of federal funding to distribute for restoration grants based on BLM identification and approval of projects	Reflects the maximum amount to be received during the 2021-23 biennium from BLM in support of aquatic restoration projects.

**Table 3. Delegation of Authority**

*Delegate authority to the Director to enter into agreements for the following spending plan line items with award dates as identified. Amounts are as identified on spending plan unless otherwise noted below.*

Spending Plan Line Item	Award Date	Background/Description
<b>CREP Technical Assistance grants</b>	July 27, 2021	Grants are approved once per biennium with a technical review completed by all CREP partners: NRCS, Farm Service Agency, Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), OWEB and associated statewide organizations. Additional funds will be made available in October pending receipt from NRCS.
<b>Weed grants</b>	July 27, 2021	OWEB administers these funds on behalf of ODA and the State Weed Board. ODA staff complete a review process and approval comes through the State Weed Board. All funds recaptured from weed grants remain in this program for future granting using policies established for the program.
<b>Small Grants</b>	July 1, 2021	Delegation increases timeliness of program implementation. Funds are allocated to small grant teams (\$100,000 per team plus additional funding based on reallocation process) so they can quickly approve and request OWEB funding for small grants. All funds recaptured from small grants remain in this program for future granting using policies established for the program.
<b>Quantifying Conservation Outputs and Outcomes</b>	July 27, 2021	Delegation of \$150,000 from this line item enables staff to re-engage with local partners to develop new targeted grants under the <i>Telling the Restoration Story</i> offering.

<b>FIP Implementation grants (excluding new solicitation)</b>	July 1, 2021	The board has already approved the funding for each existing FIP-implementation area, and will approve new implementation funding based on approval of the programs at the July 2022 meeting. Delegation of funds allows staff to work with grantees on agreed-to timelines, reviewing and approving grants as they are ready. All funds recaptured from FIP implementation grants remain in this program for future granting using policies established by the program.
<b>Soil and Water Conservation District capacity grants</b>	July 1, 2021	Delegation allows for a one-time distribution of funds for the biennium, based on process developed by Oregon Department of Agriculture for implementation of local area plans under the state's agriculture water quality program, including focused implementation in identified areas.
<b>Statewide Organization Partnership grant</b>	July 27, 2021	Delegation allows for 1 year of funding for this partnership. Staff will update the board on the project accomplishments and request the remaining funds in July 2022.
<b>Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)</b>	July 1, 2021	CREP contracts are directly with landowners and can arrive at any time in the biennium. CREP contracts are fully reviewed by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and plans approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
<b>Governor's Priorities</b>	July 27, 2021	Per details provided in Attachment F, the Governor's Natural Resources Office requests: \$300,000 in delegated funds for immediate fire response/recovery needs \$350,000 in delegated funds for climate-related work \$150,000 in delegated funds for the tide gate partnership The board receives reports from the Governor's office on overall program priorities. The 2021-23 priorities are proposed by the Governor's office, with associated justification. Staff then complete the grant application and agreement process with appropriate entities for the selected programs.
<b>Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA) grants</b>	July 27, 2021	These funds support Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) agriculture water quality program for both technical assistance and monitoring activities. Grants are reviewed by a technical team that includes OWEB and ODA staff to ensure compliance with statute and quality of proposals. The state's team also includes Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). These agencies comprise a statewide monitoring group that works with with local partners and a local monitoring team for each SIA. Specific monitoring plans are developed and used to guide baseline and ongoing data collection by local partners. Reporting milestones ensure monitoring progress is tracked and monitoring results are reviewed jointly by state and local partners.
<b>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)</b>	July 1, 2021	Based on the grant submitted by the State of Oregon through OWEB, ODFW receives a specific funding distribution from the approved PCSRF grant via pass-through by OWEB.
<b>Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership</b>	July 1, 2021	Oregon and Washington both provide funding in support of the cross-state Estuary Partnership. The Governor's office has selected OWEB to be the funding source from which these funds are provided to the program. These funds are then administered as a grant from OWEB.
<b>Sage Grouse Conservation (SageCon) Partnership</b>	July 27, 2021	OWEB has funded this partnership since 2013 to support work toward development and implementation of the state's Sage Grouse Action Plan. The Governor's office has asked OWEB to be the funding source from which these funds are provided to continue to support coordination around implementation of the action plan. The funds are then administered as a grant from OWEB.
<b>Forest Collaboratives grants</b>	July 27, 2021	These funds are transferred from ODF and are managed on their behalf. Through a partnership with ODF, OWEB manages a review team process to ensure high-quality projects are approved.

<b>PSMFC-Upper Middle Fork John Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW)</b>	July 1, 2021	The IMW is designed to evaluate the implementation of watershed restoration projects over a large geography and extended period of time to describe the collective benefits provided to salmon and steelhead populations, habitat, and water quality. Historically, funders have included NOAA Fisheries, via the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and OWEB, among others. Funding continues to be made available through PSMFC to support IMW monitoring.
<b>BLM Aquatic Restoration Grants</b>	July 1, 2021	These funds are transferred from BLM and are managed on their behalf. OWEB distributes funds through grant agreements based on BLM identification and approval of projects. Funds are in direct response to Archie Creek Fire.

# Middle Fork John Day River IMW Accomplishments Report

## OVERVIEW

The Middle Fork John Day River Intensively Monitored Watershed (MFIMW) (Figure 1) was established in 2008 and in 2017 we completed a 10-Year summary report detailing monitoring, restoration, and scientific findings from research and restoration completed from 2006-2016. The 10-Year Summary Report and more details about the MFIMW can be found here:

<http://www.middleforkimw.org/>. Since completion of the 10-year Summary Report, we have continued with restoration and research and methods have been adapted and updated based on our findings. This Report summarizes our accomplishments from 2017-2020.

**Focal Species:** Spring Chinook Salmon  
*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* and ESA threatened summer steelhead *O. mykiss*

**Limiting Factors:** Water temperature, degraded floodplain habitat and channel structure, altered hydrology and sediment routing

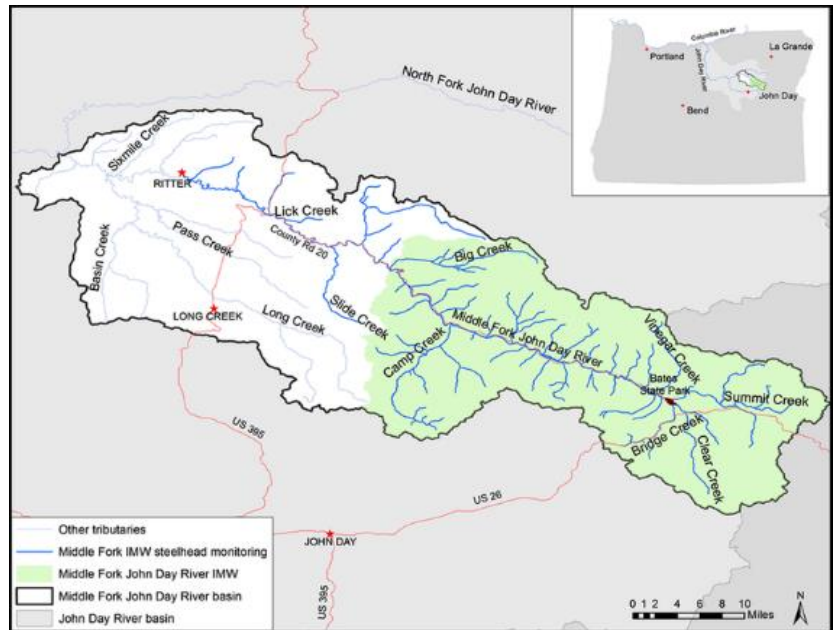
**Restoration Strategy:** Owing to the diversity of our partnership and adaption to past actions, our efforts increasingly focus on ecological process by approaching restoration through floodplain reconnection and riparian development. This approach allows us to broadly address both ecosystem function as well as habitat form as it relates to improving fish populations. The larger John Day Basin Partnership with Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Focused Investment Partnership funding has further improved collaboration and coordination amongst MFIMW researchers and restoration practitioners. Since 2008, over 125 restoration projects have been implemented.

## RESTORATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS

From 2017-2020 partners completed or implemented over 25 major restoration projects within the MFIMW area including treatment of 29 miles of instream habitat; improving or protecting 14 miles of riparian habitat and removing or replacing 58 fish passage barriers. Additionally, partners initiated a Riparian Planting Group to focus and prioritize riparian planting efforts.



**Figure 2.** Examples of restoration in the MFIMW. **Left** – Holistic restoration of Bear Creek, tributary to the Middle Fork John Day River (MFJDR) included reconnection of Bear Creek to the MFJDR, removal of a fish passage barrier, and planting of 6000 hardwoods. Photo Credit: NFJWC **Right** – EXAMPLE of riparian growth within an enclosure on Camp Creek, a tributary to the MFJDR. Photo credit: USFS-MNF

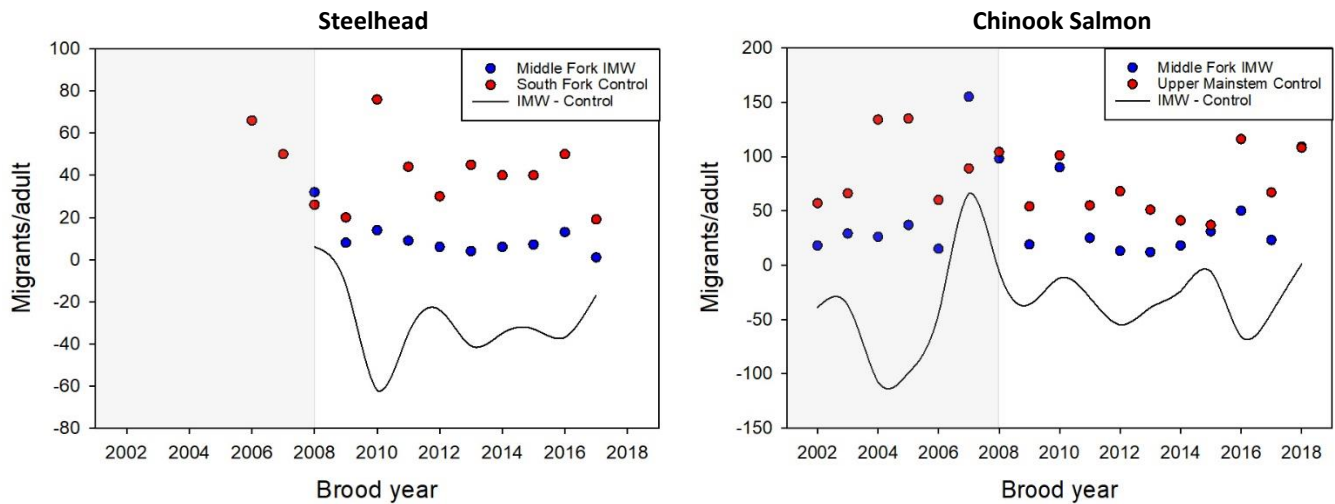


**Figure 1:** Middle Fork John River Intensively Monitored Watershed area. Inset shows the MFIMW area in relation to the Middle Fork John Day River basin, the John Day basin, and the state of Oregon.



# MONITORING RESULTS 2017-2020

**Watershed Scale Fish** – Monitoring efforts have not yet detected a change in steelhead or Chinook Salmon productivity compared to reference watersheds (Figure 3), and it will likely take several salmonid life-cycles (20-30 years) before improvements in productivity can be detected.



**Figure 3.** Steelhead and salmon productivity measured as outmigrants per adult spawner. Productivity measured in the MFJDR represented by blue dots; red dots represent productivity measured in reference watersheds (Upper Mainstem John Day River for Chinook Salmon; South Fork John Day River for steelhead). The black line represents the difference between MFIMW and reference productivity. Pre- and post- IMW implementation is represented by the grey and white shading, respectively.

**Habitat** – In 2019, we resampled 15 sites in the MFJDR and 10 sites in Camp and Lick creeks established in 2009/2008 and resampled in 2014 to track watershed-scale stream habitat condition changes following the Pacfish/Infish Biological Opinion Effectiveness Monitoring Program (PIBO) sampling methods. For complete analysis and results please read the full [PIBO report](#).

Across all sites, temporal trends in cumulative physical habitat index scores were not statistically significant, but trends do indicate that for most metrics stream habitat is improving. However, analyses showed an increase in pool tail fines, across all sites, trending in the opposite direction than desired. This finding is likely a response to sediment sorting and an increase in fines due to the increased hydrologic complexity from large woody debris inputs during restoration.

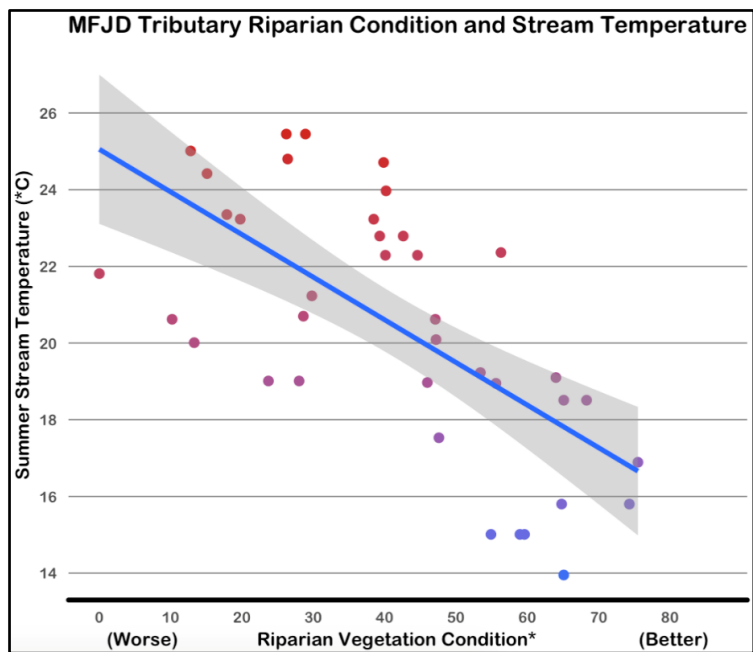
**MFJDR** – Analyses show that the median particle size and macroinvertebrate Observed/Expected metrics increased and were trending in the desired direction. The temporal trend for median particle size is statistically significant.

**Camp and Lick creeks** – Analyses show that large wood frequency, residual pool depth, and percent pools increased and results are statistically significant. Both residual pool depth and percent pools are approaching reference conditions.



**Figure 4.** Photos for a PIBO site on the MFJDR showing subtle vegetation changes over three sampling events from 2009-2019.

**Water Temperature** – Elevated summer water temperature continues to be the limiting factor of greatest concern. Lack of mature riparian vegetation, and thus shade, is likely an important driver of elevated summer water temperatures that limit juvenile fish rearing capacity in the MFIMW. A large temperature monitoring network exists in the MFIMW, including 150 water temperature loggers located in both the mainstem MFJDR and tributary streams. Results of trend analyses show some areas of cooling, but the majority of locations display no significant trends. Since 2017 we improved management of loggers and water temperature data with an oversight group, dedicated data management system, and a shift to year-round temperature monitoring. These improvements have allowed the MFIMW to readily analyze and share water temperature data with partners and regional groups like [NorWeST](#). These data have allowed restoration practitioners to identify and prioritize riparian vegetation improvement projects in areas of critical need where riparian vegetation is deficient and water temperature is above critical thresholds (Figure 5).

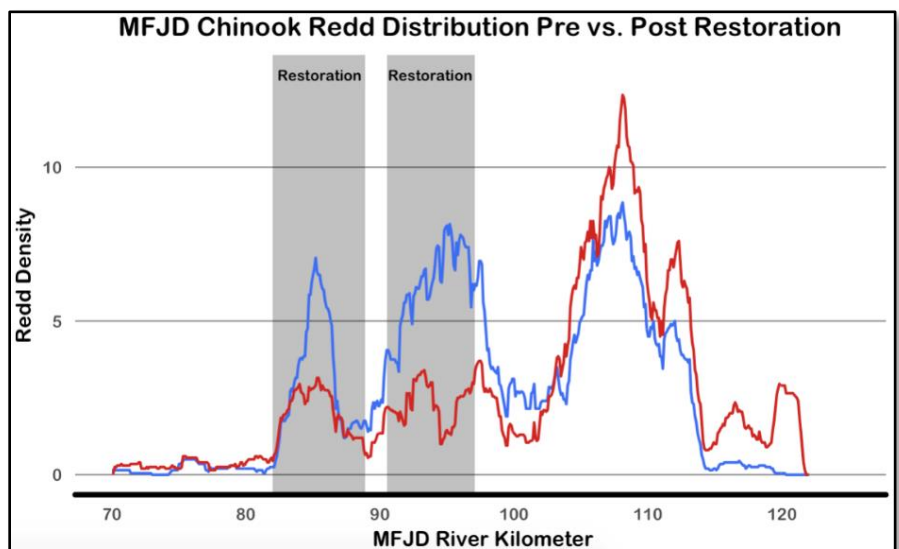


**Figure 5.** Riparian Vegetation Condition: Percent of area within a 60-foot buffer with vegetation 6 feet or taller. Points represent 80 measurements along segments within 38 tributaries to the MFJDR. Y-axis is the August average of the 7-day average daily maximum water temperature (7DADM) for 2017 when riparian condition was measured.

## ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

### How and what is being monitored now that we have over 10 years of data?

The 10-Year Summary Report resulted in a long list of lessons learned and recommendations for future restoration, research and monitoring, with a strong emphasis on the need to address water temperature, the limiting factor of greatest concern. Recent research has been focused on monitoring for localized near-term restoration responses. From 2017 to 2020, researchers examined the effects of water temperature and riparian shade on juvenile fish distribution and assessed spatial patterns in adult Chinook Salmon spawning before and after restoration. While average redd counts and spawner abundance remained static, Chinook Salmon redd density (redds/km) on the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs' Oxbow Conservation Area more than doubled after restoration, as spawning shifted from upstream reaches to restored reaches (Figure 6).



**Figure 6.** Chinook salmon redd density in the MFIMW area by river kilometer. The Red line represents average density of redds for pre-restoration years (2003-2010) and the blue line represents average redd density during post-restoration years (2011-2019). Grey bars show the location of major restoration activities on the MFJDR including the Oxbow project.

The detected changes in Chinook Salmon redd distribution demonstrated local and reach level effects of restoration, and in turn, inspired further investigation into juvenile salmon and steelhead movement and use of restored areas of the MFIMW in comparison to non-restored areas. Researchers are investigating whether juvenile density is actually increasing in restoration reaches or whether juvenile distribution is just shifting to restored areas. Recent juvenile movement tracking efforts suggest an over-summer survival bottleneck and tracking data will be used to identify survival patterns for restored and unrestored reaches.

## FUTURE MFIMW MONITORING AND RESEARCH



**Figure 7.** Installation of a channel spanning PIT-tag array near Ritter, at the downstream end of fish monitoring in the MFJD. Photo Credit: ODFW

We continue to upgrade and refine recently installed channel spanning PIT-tag arrays to better detect fish movement and provide alternate methods for estimating population numbers (Figure 7). Juvenile movement and density data collection will continue, and we are evaluating differential survival and fish-habitat relationships at restored and unrestored sites where habitat was intensively measured at a reach scale. Efforts are underway to gain insight into the Chinook Salmon fry life stage using innovative sampling techniques, including parentage monitoring. A significant effort began in fall 2020 to collect genetic samples on Chinook Salmon carcasses and, in spring 2021, Chinook Salmon fry. This work aims to assign juveniles captured in the spring and summer back to their natal redds to document dispersal of juveniles from redds into the surrounding habitats. Tracking dispersal patterns from redds is yet another step in understanding how fish are utilizing available habitat and how restoration and changes in water temperature (due to restoration or climate change) influence movement and survival of juvenile salmonids. As restoration implementation efforts continue, ongoing research to assess shifts in movement patterns, reach use, and ultimately survival of juvenile salmon and steelhead in relation to specific locations and types of restoration will be key for determining effectiveness and guiding implementation of restoration projects. In conjunction with the parentage monitoring, researchers have estimated Chinook Salmon hatch timing using developmental models and observed water temperature data. We are sampling Chinook Salmon fry to assess emergence timing and duration to both ground-truth developmental models and repeat a 40-year old

emergence timing study. In addition, a number of water temperature products are under development including a spatial stream network model which will predict reach scale average summer stream temperatures across the MFIMW area, and a model that will forecast water temperature and utilizes flow data from the [MFJDR at Camp Creek](#) gage. Stream temperature models tailored to produce biologically relevant variables at a reach-scale resolution will allow us to better track and evaluate changes in water temperature throughout the MFIMW area, allowing restoration practitioners to target projects in areas of highest impact. Finally, PIBO habitat monitoring will be repeated at 5-year intervals with the next sampling event occurring in 2024.

## PARTNERSHIPS & FUNDING

Collaborative funding for monitoring and restoration has supported the MFIMW Working Group since 2008. This diverse consortium of funders, restoration implementers, researchers, landowners, and agencies continue to work together to measure the effects of river restoration projects on salmon and steelhead at the watershed scale.





Kate Brown  
Governor



## MEMORANDUM

Date: July 13, 2021

To: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

From: Jason Miner, Natural Resources Policy Director, Office of Governor Kate Brown

Subject: Governor's Priorities Funding

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Governor Brown's Natural Resources Office (GNRO) appreciates your consideration of the Governor's priorities line item in the agency's grant spending plan, as well as continued investment in two long-term conservation initiatives. These funds have been critical over many biennia. Funding supports work within the sideboards of Ballot Measure 76 and furthers priority programs and initiatives related to restoration in Oregon. Funding supports critical conservation projects that lie at the intersection of the Governor's priorities and the priorities overwhelmingly approved by the voters with the passage of Measure 76.

For the 2021-23 biennium, GNRO requests the board's consideration of the following funding requests. These fall within the overall \$1,000,000 spending plan line item proposed by OWEB staff for board approval in March. However, two shifts are proposed from the detail presented in March. First, the initial \$500,000 in funding for Harney CREP is no longer needed given the legislature's approval of funding for that line item. Instead, we are requesting the board consider leaving \$200,000 in reserve for the program in case demand outstrips funding the legislature provided. This is because the state and its federal partners must commit to funding all eligible and approved applicants once a sign-up is opened. A final decision on whether funds are needed will be presented to the board in July 2022. In addition, needs have arisen around the state's Tide Gate Partnership that warrant additional investments to increase the potential for tide gate replacement projects along the Oregon coast and lower Columbia River.

**Fire Recovery Immediate Response (\$300,000)** – Based on experience from the unprecedented 2020 fire season, when OWEB provided grants to support immediate post-fire recovery work in 13 wildfire areas, grants will be made available should the need arise during the 2021 and 2022 fire seasons. Eligible implementation actions include soil stabilization efforts and log salvage for future restoration. Funding could also be used for

stakeholder engagement to aid landowners in accessing fire-response funding along with technical assistance for fire impact assessments.

**Climate-Related Initiatives (\$350,000)** – The funding will support work that is mutually agreed upon by OWEB and the Governor’s Office, and could relate to such activities as: a) follow-up on natural and working lands efforts related to OWEB’s climate initiatives and Climate Executive Order (EO) 20-04, b) climate equity and justice considerations related to OWEB’s diversity, equity and inclusion work and the Impacted Communities work group under EO 20-04, and c) exploration of existing estimation and quantification tools for use in OWEB and other agency programs, among others. Examples include:

- Working with Oregon Department of Agriculture and federal partners, improve understanding of Oregon’s agricultural soil health and identify strategies that can be taken to boost soil health.
- Working with Oregon Department of Forestry and federal partners, develop guidance and expanded tools for developing restoration planting plans in forested areas to account for shifts in species needed to adapt to a changing climate.
- For tidal wetlands, support of efforts by the Department of Land Conservation and Development, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and local partners to identify priority restoration sites, conduct cost-benefit analyses, and develop action and implementation strategies for approaches that promote blue carbon activities in tidally influenced areas.
- Work with partners to better define the relationship between OWEB acquisition and restoration investments and the associated sale of carbon credits.

**Tide Gate Partnership (\$150,000)** – The Tide Gate Partnership has had great success over the last four years in moving forward key initiatives to increase tide gate repair and replacement along the Oregon Coast and lower Columbia River. Regulatory agencies are partnering more closely to help process the myriad permit requirements for these projects. Business Oregon received and is in the process of distributing \$3 million to support tide gate replacement projects and designs. An inventory of all tide gates has been completed. And, technical tools that will reduce engineering design costs and will support strategic investments are nearing finalization. The partnership has continuing funding needs to:

- Develop a common monitoring approach for tide gate replacement projects to ensure that best practices are followed, and lessons learned can be shared.
- Determine if data from the tide gate ‘Decision Support Tool’ can be used with the ‘Tide Gate Pipe Sizing Tool’ to make it easier for tide gate owners to have the information needed to determine the size of their tide gate without incurring engineering costs.

In addition to the specific Governor’s Priorities identified above to fall within the \$1,000,000 request, we also want to highlight two ongoing funding needs that are

proposed within the OWEB spending plan. These ongoing investments support critical actions in two areas of the state, leading to increased conservation work in the Lower Columbia Estuary and in Eastern Oregon's Sage Steppe habitat.

**Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP)** – LCEP is a two-state, public-private National Estuary Program (NEP) created by the Governors of Oregon and Washington and the Environmental Protection Agency in 1995 to focus on the 146 miles of the lower Columbia River. LCEP needs state matching funds to complement federal funding received through the NEP. OWEB funds to LCEP will support riparian and habitat restoration in the watershed.

**Sage-grouse Conservation Partnership** – Funding for this line item continues investment in key coordination and collaborative governance to support statewide planning and coordination, and local implementation. Overhead for the funding for SageCon work is limited to 10%. The partnership addresses the health of Oregon's sage-steppe ecosystem, rural community vitality, and threats to habitat and wildlife, while advancing economic development within a conservation framework.

Your investment in these programs is key to advancing new and innovative approaches to address conservation challenges at the landscape scale. Thank you for your dedication to this work, and support for the identified initiatives.

Regards,



Jason Miner  
Natural Resources Policy Director  
Office of Governor Kate Brown



Kate Brown, Governor



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*Agenda Item G supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority #4: Watershed organizations have access to a diverse and stable funding portfolio.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item G – OWEB's Role in Managing Funds for Others: Panel Discussion  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Background

OWEB has a long history of passing through funds from other sources to help watershed organizations achieve their goals, beginning with federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery (PCSRF) funds. Over time, OWEB has been asked to manage funds for additional agencies, such as the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), as program goals aligned. With more than two decades of experience demonstrating effective and efficient grantmaking, OWEB has become an attractive entity for other organizations looking for an agency to manage watershed enhancement funds. At the July Board meeting, OWEB partners will participate in a panel discussion with the board about their rationale for considering OWEB as a grant management entity for their funds. This is a discussion item only.

### II. The Panelists

Eric Williams will facilitate a panel discussion with the following participants:

- Steve Brink, Salmonid Habitat Program Leader, Idaho Power
- Scott Lightcap, Fisheries Program Lead, Bureau of Land Management
- Jeff Burns, Partnership and Planning Program Director, Oregon Department of Forestry
- Clayton Creager, Klamath River Implementation Lead, North Coast Regional Water Control Board (CA)
- Jason Jeans, Assistant State Conservationist, NRCS

The panelists will provide a summary of the programs they currently run through OWEB or may do so in the near future. They will address the rationale for this choice, expected outcomes, and future direction for the partnership with OWEB.

# **July 27 & 28 2021 OWEB Board Meeting**

## **Agenda Item H**

Public Comments Place Holder

Addendum added after July 22, 2021 deadline



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Courtney Shaff, Business Operations Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item I– Council Capacity Grant Awards  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This staff report provides an overview of the 2021-2023 Council Capacity grant cycle process and outlines staff recommendations for grant awards. Staff recommend funding fifty-six watershed councils (councils) for \$7.559 million. Two councils are not recommended for funding.

### II. Background

For more than 20 years, OWEB has provided capacity grants to councils, which are shown in Attachment A. In July 2014, the Board adopted administrative rules and guidance for Council Capacity grants, which help support the operating capacity of effective councils. The Council Capacity grant process includes an eligibility determination and initial and secondary merit reviews.

In December 2020 the board adopted a one-time, streamlined application approach for the 2021-2023 Council Capacity grant application process given the many challenges grantees have faced during the COVID pandemic. This approach allowed councils funded in the 2019-2021 biennium to submit a streamlined application and staff completed a streamlined review. Councils not funded in the 2019-2021 biennium completed the full Council Capacity grant application and were reviewed by both the initial OWEB review team and external secondary review team.

### III. Merit Review

Merit criteria (Attachment B) evaluate councils for performance and progress including how the council addresses challenges.

- A. Initial Merit Review.** OWEB staff completed the initial review of all fifty-eight councils that applied for funding. For councils funded in the 2019-2021 biennium, staff reviewed the application materials and used council performance from the last biennium to determine if the councils met the merit criteria and if any grant conditions were necessary.

Two councils applied that did not receive funding in the 2019-2021 biennium. The Valley of the Rogue WC was a new applicant and the Tillamook Bay WC has

been funded in the past but was not funded in the 2019-2021 biennium. Staff reviewed the application materials and used council performance to determine if the councils met the merit criteria.

- B. Secondary Review and Interview.** Both councils that did not receive funding in the 2019-2021 biennium participated in the secondary review process. The secondary review panel consisted of OWEB staff and external reviewers from other agencies and partner organizations. Reviewers considered: 1) application materials and supplemental materials provided by the council; 2) reviewers' assessment of council performance; 3) OWEB staff input; and 4) an interview with council staff and board.

#### **IV. Staff Funding Recommendations**

Staff funding recommendations are based on the merit evaluation and available funding, including a cost-of-living increase. Staff recommend Full Funding, \$131,465, for fifty-six councils that meet all merit criteria, and Do Not Fund for two councils, with inadequate performance. In addition, staff recommend one council receives continued merger funding on top of the base award as approved in previous biennia.

OWEB staff recognize the significance of the Do Not Fund recommendations for Tillamook Bay WC and Valley of the Rogue WC and do not make these recommendations lightly. Evaluation summaries describing the rationale for staff recommendations are provided in Attachment D.

It is important to note that the Do Not Fund recommendation is not permanent, and each council may submit Council Capacity grant eligibility determination documents in future cycles.

#### **V. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board award Council Capacity grants as described in Attachment C.

### **Attachments**

- A. Map of Locally Recognized Watershed Councils
- B. Merit Criteria Overview
- C. Staff Funding Recommendations
- D. Council Capacity Evaluations



# Oregon Watershed Councils

**North Coast Watershed Association**  
NCWA Coastal Council  
\*a. Ecola Creek WC  
NCWA River Council  
\*b. Nicolai-Wichiup WC  
\*c. Skipanon WC  
\*d. Youngs Bay WC

e. Columbia Slough WC  
f. Greater Oregon City WC  
g. Johnson Creek WC  
\*h. Lake Oswego WC  
\*i. N. Clackamas Urban WC  
\*j. Tryon Creek WC

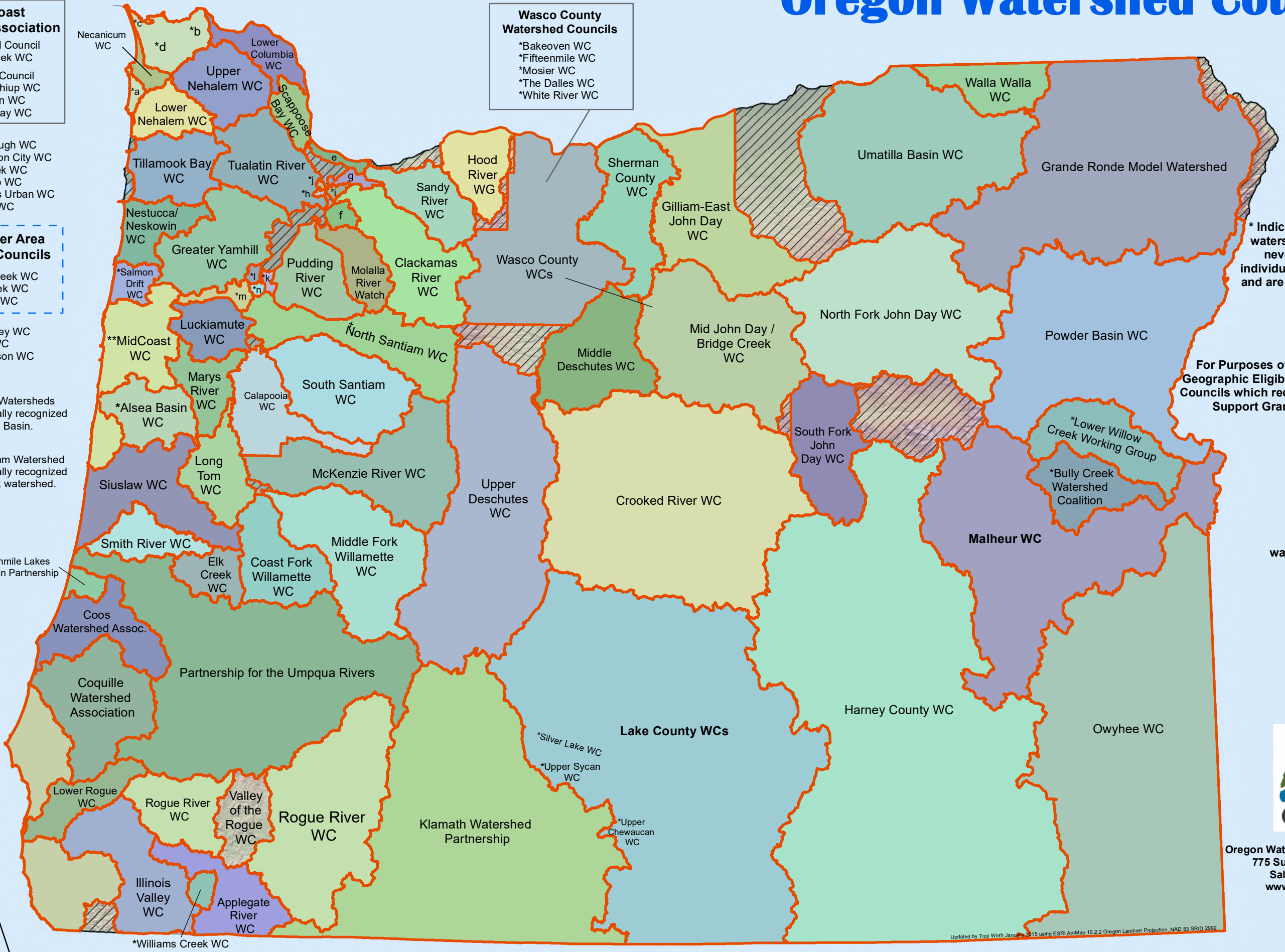
**Salem Keizer Area Watershed Councils**  
\*k. Claggett Creek WC  
\*l. Pringle Creek WC  
\*m. Mill Creek WC

\*n. Spring Valley WC  
\*o. Rickreall WC  
\*p. Glenn-Gibson WC

\*\*The MidCoast Watersheds Council is also locally recognized in the Alsea Basin.

†The North Santiam Watershed Council is also locally recognized in the Mill Creek watershed.

**Wasco County Watershed Councils**  
\*Bakeoven WC  
\*Fifteenmile WC  
\*Mosier WC  
\*The Dalles WC  
\*White River WC



\* Indicates locally recognized watershed councils that have never received their own individual Council Support Grant and are not eligible for a Council Capacity Grant.

For Purposes of OAR 695-040-0030(2)(a) Geographic Eligibility Criteria: Boundaries of Councils which received a Watershed Council Support Grant Before July 1, 2013.



Area with no watershed council



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
775 Summer St. NE Suite 360  
Salem, OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB)

**South Coast Watersheds Council**

The South Coast Watersheds Council is also locally recognized for the Chetco Basin.



## Council Capacity Merit Criteria Overview

### The goals of the merit review are to:

1. Ensure strategic and accountable investment of public funds;
2. Encourage continuous improvement in watershed councils' organizational management, operating structure, and functions, and the planning and implementation of on-the-ground watershed protection, restoration, enhancement, and community engagement activities, and;
3. Ensure watershed councils are working toward strengthening their role in watersheds through activities focusing on council resilience, leadership, collaboration, and representing a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed as required by ORS 541.910(2).

### Merit Criteria

Merit Criteria	Review for performance
Effective Governance and Management	<p>The council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has effective bylaws/charter and policies/ procedures, and follows them.</li> <li>• Includes a balance of interested and affected persons on its governing body.</li> <li>• Regularly evaluates and takes action to improve its organization.</li> </ul> <p>The council's governing body acts to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the council meets legal obligations and requirements.</li> <li>• Support successful achievement of the council's goals.</li> <li>• Create a structure, policies, and procedures to support good governance.</li> <li>• Provide effective oversight of staff and contractors.</li> <li>• Continuously improve its business practices.</li> </ul>
Progress in planning	<p>The council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses planning documents to identify and implement restoration and community engagement projects.</li> <li>• Regularly evaluates and updates its action plan and work plans.</li> <li>• Engages a mix of stakeholders in its planning.</li> </ul>
Progress in On-the-Ground Restoration	The council's actions result in progress in completing priority on-the-ground watershed restoration work tied to council-identified watershed limiting factors.
Progress in Community Engagement	The council makes progress in achieving community engagement objectives that address limiting factors identified in the council's 2-year work plan.

OWEB STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION  
2021-2023 COUNCIL CAPACITY GRANTS

Staff Recommended Funding Level	Part of Secondary Review	App#	Watershed Council	Merger Funding	21-23 Award	19-21 Award
Full Funding		222-001	North Coast WS Assn	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-003	MidCoast WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-004	Upper Nehalem WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-005	Nestucca-Neskowin Watersheds Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-006	Siuslaw WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-008	Applegate Partnership & WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-010	Coos Watershed Association	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-011	Coquille Watershed Association	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-012	Illinois Valley WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-014	Lower Rogue WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-016	South Coast WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-017	Tenmile Lakes Partnership	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-018	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-019	Rogue River WC	\$ 197,198	\$ 328,663	\$ 307,250
Full Funding		222-021	Elk Creek WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-022	Calapooia WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-023	Clackamas River Basin Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-024	Coast Fork Willamette WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-025	Columbia Slough WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-026	Johnson Creek WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-027	Long Tom WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-028	Marys River WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-029	Middle Fork Willamette WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-030	North Santiam Watershed Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-031	Pudding River WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-035	Scappoose Bay WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-036	South Santiam WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-037	Tualatin River WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-038	McKenzie WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-039	Greater Yamhill Watershed Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-040	Klamath Watershed Partnership	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-041	Crooked River WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-042	Gilliam East John Day WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-043	Hood River Working Group	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-044	Middle Deschutes WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-045	Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-046	Sherman Area WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-047	Upper Deschutes WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-048	Wasco Area WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-049	Grande Ronde Model WS Program	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-050	Harney Watershed Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-051	Malheur WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-052	North Fork John Day WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-053	Umatilla Basin WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-054	Walla Walla Basin WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-055	Mid John Day-Bridge Creek WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-056	Owyhee WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-057	Powder Basin WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-058	Luckiamute WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-059	Greater Oregon City WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-060	Smith River WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-061	Lower Nehalem WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-062	Necanicum WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-063	Upper South Fork John Day Watershed Council	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-064	Molalla River Watch Inc	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 122,900
Full Funding		222-002	Lower Columbia River WC	-	\$ 131,465	\$ 98,320
Do Not Fund	Y	220-007	Tillamook Bay WC		\$ -	\$ -
Do Not Fund	Y	222-065	Valley of the Rogue WC	-	\$ -	\$ -
Total			Staff Recommended Amount		\$ 7,559,238	\$ 7,042,170

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
**2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant**  
**Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications**

**Application # 222-001**

---

**Project Name:** NCWA 2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** North Coast WS Assn

**Application Description**

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The Council Capacity Grant funds watershed restoration planning and operational activities for the North Coast Watershed Association. Limiting factors, include: altered quality of physical habitat, historic diking and roads, disconnection from the floodplain, impaired water quality, lack of habitat complexity and large wood, lack of riparian coverage, fish passage barriers, lack of quality monitoring data, and increased erosion from land use practices.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator. The council demonstrated strong leadership during the recent council coordinator transitions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning* through engagement in several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including the regional Chum Partnership.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in stakeholder engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council adapted its stakeholder engagement approach during COVID-19 and was able to continue engaging with the local community.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-002**

---

**Project Name:** LCRWC Council Capacity and Support

**Applicant:** Columbia SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Lower Columbia River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council has made significant progress on the management of the council, including returning to an effective staffing structure that is able to retain a full time council employee.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council works on both organizational strategic planning as well as engaging in local planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrated ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrated ***effective progress in stakeholder engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council adapted its stakeholder engagement approach during COVID-19 and was able to continue engaging with the local community.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-003**

---

**Project Name:** MidCoast WC Council Capacity 2021-2023

**Applicant:** MidCoast WC

**Application Description**

---

The MidCoast Watersheds Council, located in Newport, OR, works in an area of nearly one million acres, including all streams draining from the crest of the coast range to the Pacific Ocean, and from the Salmon River at Cascade head to Cape Creek at Heceta Head. The council relies on Council Capacity funding to maintain baseline funding for two staff positions to complete work related to watershed restoration, planning processes, community outreach, and other activities.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board reviews and updates policies and procedures as necessary to ensure the council is following good business practices.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning*** through leadership in local planning efforts. The council continues to plan an integral role in the Siletz Coho Strategic Action Plan and the MidCoast Water Planning Partnership.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*** through the implementation of several large scale restoration projects during the last biennium.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in stakeholder engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes through a variety of in-person and online engagement opportunities.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-004**

---

**Project Name:** Upper Nehalem Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Upper Nehalem WC

**Application Description**

---

The Upper Nehalem Watershed Council service area encompasses 555 square miles of temperate rain-forest. We seek capacity support to continue to advance watershed health and native salmon population recovery actions across the landscape in collaboration with partners. From this foundation we are able to maintain a viable network of supporters with whom we secure and leverage essential resources in order to implement a wide scope of actions.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and maintains an active and engaged board of directors.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is an active participant in several local planning efforts including coho business planning and the Nehalem Basin Partnership.

OWEB staff found the demonstrated *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration* thought completion of projects and planning for future project implementation.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in stakeholder engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is hosting events and speakers that cover a variety of viewpoints.

**Concerns**

The council is currently operating at a reduced capacity, with the council coordinator working only one day a week since the fall. This is impacting the council's ability to meet its OWEB reporting obligations and may impact its ability to serve the community in the future.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings. Minutes must include a list of attendees. Information received from this condition will be considered in the 23-25 council capacity merit evaluations.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-005**

---

**Project Name:** Nestucca, Neskowin & Sand Lake Watersheds Council Support

**Applicant:** Nestucca-Neskowin Watersheds Council

**Application Description**

---

The Nestucca, Neskowin & Sand Lake Watersheds Council operates in South Tillamook County. Limiting factors include high stream temperatures due to a lack of riparian vegetation, over-appropriation of stream flow in the summer, numerous fish passage barriers, erosion and sedimentation, invasive plant species, wetland degradation, lack of habitat complexity and lack of floodplain connectivity.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board has been very engaged in the community.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is leading several local planning efforts, including within the Sand Lake watershed and the Tillamook-Nestucca Salmon SuperHwy partnership, as well as working on organizational planning.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council's work plans demonstrates the council has made progress completing priority on-the-ground watershed restoration.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in stakeholder engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council has continued to engage the local community during the last biennium with virtual and in-person events.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-006**

---

**Project Name:** Siuslaw Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Siuslaw WC

**Application Description**

---

The Siuslaw Watershed Council, located in Mapleton, OR, has been working with local partners to restore the Siuslaw and Coastal Lakes watersheds on the central Oregon coast since 1997. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings, works on organizational improvement, and recently added new board members.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading the Siuslaw Partnership's strategic action plan implementation, is involved in the coho business planning process, and facilitates the Siuslaw Coho Partnership.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is implemented numerous priority projects over the last biennium and is working on the development of future restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in stakeholder engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council continues to engage the local community and recently launched a new website.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-007**

---

**Project Name:** TBWC Council Support 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Tillamook Bay WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

The council demonstrated some ***effective progress toward on-the-ground restoration***. The council has continued to move forward with developing projects despite not receiving council capacity funding and has made connections with Oregon Department of Forestry for possible future projects focused on large wood.

The council demonstrated some ***effective progress toward on-the-ground restoration*** as it continues to be a member of the SalmonSuper Highway partnership.

The council demonstrated some ***progress on governance and management*** with board members continuing the work of the council, including updating the bylaws, and recruiting new board members over the last few months.

**Concerns**

While the council demonstrated limited progress on effective management and governance as identified in the strengths, overall, the council continues to struggle with many of the same organizational management and governance concerns raised in the council capacity reviews the last two biennia. Previous and ongoing concerns include the following: 1) The council board has not developed a structure to effectively provide oversight and management to future council employees; 2) Previous council staff acted in the name of the council while operating outside of their role as council coordinator; and 3) The council consistently submitted late and inadequate fiscal and project reports for OWEB grants. The council board is very interested in projects but did not demonstrate it is prepared from a management perspective to adopt and implement organizational management and governance best practices necessary to have a successful watershed council. As a result, overall the council did not demonstrate enough progress in ***effective management and governance*** to meet this criteria.

The council did not demonstrate ***progress in planning*** through the application and interview process. The council did not provide clear and specific information as to how the council has, and will in the future, engage with the broader community to plan the work of the council. The council is driven by a few very project-focused individuals. Based on materials submitted and the interview, they do not seem to intend to develop a council work plan or broader council action plan with community input that can help guide the future work of the council. When asked during the interview, council members were unable to articulate a long-term vision for the council. The council would benefit from outside technical support to help the council develop a vision, in collaboration with the broader community, of future restoration work in the watershed.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
**2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant**  
**Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications**

The council did not demonstrate ***progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes*** through the application and interview process. Past actions of the council, including staff engaging in regulatory processes, have alienated key stakeholders within the community, particularly within the dairy and agricultural sectors. These issues, initially identified in the previous council capacity review, have not been resolved. In 2020, as a result of community concerns, the County Commissioners rescinded the council's recognition in its geography. A process is underway to receive county recognition. During the secondary review process the council did not seem aware of the need for broad stakeholder engagement and did not provide any specific examples of future stakeholder engagement activities that may be necessary to rebuild the trust of the community. The council did not identify any steps it has taken to repair the relationships with some community organizations and did not present a plan to move forward. Instead, the council pointed issues with other organizations as the source of their problems. The council would benefit from increasing their engagement with stakeholders and community members to collaboratively develop future restoration projects.

**Concluding Analysis**

The watershed council was not funded in the 2019-2021 biennium. The vast majority of the concerns expressed by reviewers and OWEB staff previously continue to be concerns. The council board continues to place responsibility on other organizations for their community engagement challenges. Some minor changes have been made to council policy and by-laws, but the board members have not worked in a substantial way to improve governance and management. Previous council actions created distrust of the council within the community, and those have not been resolved. To be inclusive and representative of the watershed, the council needs to develop and implement a plan for how to overcome those challenges.

The council does have a lot of energy and enthusiasm for restoration projects; however, the council needs to also focus on stakeholder engagement, planning and organizational governance. In the final analysis of the review team, the council showed some progress in on-the-ground restoration but did not meet any of the other merit criteria required by OWEB to receive funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$0

**Staff Conditions**

N/A

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-008**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity - Applegate Partnership\_21-23

**Applicant:** Applegate Partnership, Inc.

**Application Description**

---

The Applegate watershed contains over 493,000 acres and is split between Jackson and Josephine Counties and Siskiyou County in northern California. The land ownership is primarily federally managed lands with rural residential and private forest making up the rest, and over 700 miles of stream habitat for winter and summer Steelhead, Coho salmon, fall Chinook salmon, and Pacific Lamprey. Through on-the-ground projects, outreach, and participation in local activities, the APWC strives to bring awareness to these communities through our work that mutually benefits the landowners, community and our natural resources.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings and has a very engaged board actively working to support the organization and staff.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading several local planning efforts around fish passage and are engaging local partners and the community.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council has several stakeholder engagement projects it is making progress on, despite COVID related challenges.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-010**

---

**Project Name:** Coos Watershed Association 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Coos Watershed Association

**Application Description**

---

The mission of the Coos Watershed Association is to support environmental integrity and economic stability within the Coos watershed by increasing community capacity to develop, test, promote, and implement management practices in the interest of watershed health. This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Coos Watershed Association. Council identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board reviews and updates policies and procedures as necessary to ensure the council is following best business practices.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading several local assessment and planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including tidegate collaboration between another local council and SWCD.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to engage stakeholders related to tidegate work within the watershed.

---

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-011**

---

**Project Name:** Coquille Watershed Association Council Capacity Application

**Applicant:** Coquille Watershed Association

**Application Description**

---

This council capacity grant will support the work of the Coquille Watershed Association. The mission of the Association is to work collaboratively with landowners to develop and implement voluntary watershed restoration, enhancement, and engagement activities that promote healthy and resilient ecosystems and economies in the Coquille watershed. Council identified watershed limiting factors include hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of Information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water Quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board is active in the management and oversight of the council.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading several local assessment and planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including tidegate collaboration between another local council and SWCD.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes***. The council is working to engage stakeholders related to tidegate work within the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,454

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-012**

---

**Project Name:** Illinois Valley WC Council Capacity\_2021-2023

**Applicant:** Illinois Valley WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Illinois Valley Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings and is working improve overall organizational operations and management as well as providing supervision and oversight for the council coordinator.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council has a current strategic plan and will begin to develop a new 3 year strategic plan.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council adopted a new outreach plan and is beginning implementation.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, board meeting announcements, agendas and minutes for all meetings. Minutes must include a list of attendees. Information received from this condition will be considered in the 23-25 council capacity merit evaluations.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-014**

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**Project Name:** Lower Rogue Watershed Council Capacity 19-21

**Applicant:** Curry SWCD

**Application Description**

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The Lower Rogue Watershed includes all lands and waters of these lands that drain into the Rogue and Illinois rivers within Curry County, Oregon, and is the western extent of the Rogue River Basin. Our purpose is to protect, enhance, and restore long-term natural resources and economic stability of the Lower Rogue Watershed and the near shore environment. Council identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings, reviews and updates council documents, and the council board members attend trainings during the last biennium

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is involved in organizational and partnership strategic planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects including a focus on the estuary.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council has worked hard to improve engagement with local tribes and engage them in restoration opportunities on the Lower Rogue.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-016**

---

**Project Name:** South Coast Watershed Council Capacity 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Curry SWCD

**Application Description**

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The South Coast Watershed Council encompasses 10 coastal watersheds on the southern Oregon coast that support coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and/or steelhead. Limiting factors vary across these watersheds, but all are impaired by elevated summer stream temperatures, an overabundant supply of coarse grained sediment, invasive plants, small estuaries, loss of floodplain connectivity and off-channel habitat, and the oversimplification of the low gradient stream network.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council regularly holds meetings, reviews and updates council documents.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is involved in organizational and partnership strategic planning efforts and is working on a collective communication plan with the local council and SWCD.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council has worked hard to improve engagement with local tribes and incorporate ecocultural knowledge into futures restoration projects.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-017**

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**Project Name:** Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Cascade Pacific RC&D

**Application Description**

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The Tenmile Lakes Watershed is a coastal lake system that contains 113 stream miles and over 3,000 surface acres of Lakes that provide high priority habitat for native Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. Limiting factors identified include nonnative fish predation, multiple fish passage barriers, increases sedimentation resulting in toxic algae blooms and nuisance aquatic plant growth, and reduced riparian zone functions. Funding will coordinate and support the TLBP and Partners in implementing multiple projects prioritized within the assessment and action plans.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board consists of many long-serving members who take an active role in leadership and management of the organization.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local tribal partners.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is very active in the community and prioritizes stakeholder engagement activities.

**Concerns**

The council has many long-standing board members and would benefit from the development of a board recruitment plan to ensure the council's strong and engaged board continues.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-018**

---

**Project Name:** Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers Council Capacity 2021-23

**Applicant:** Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers

**Application Description**

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This project is located in the Umpqua Basin and is focused on working with willing landowners to improve stream habitat and water quality throughout the project location area. This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers Watershed Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is very engaged and supportive of the council coordinator and is working to expand council board membership and engagement.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including leading the Umpqua Basin Development FIP, working on Umpqua Basin oak and tidegates.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects and is engaged in the fire recovery from the Archie Creek fire.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-019**

---

**Project Name:** Rogue River Watershed Council Capacity 2021 to 2023

**Applicant:** Rogue River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Rogue River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality –altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is very engaged and supportive of the council and is working to expand council board membership and engagement, focusing on recruiting a more diverse board.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects and is engaged in the fire recovery from the Alameda Fire.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, focusing on streamside landowners.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB’s merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria plus Merger Funding

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$328,662

At the April 2019 Board meeting the Board discussed providing on-going merger support to watershed councils that have successfully merged. Additional merger funding is calculated by multiplying 1.5 times the council’s base award. ( $\$131,465 + ((\$131,465 \times 1.5 = \$197,197)) = \$328,662$ )

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-021**

---

**Project Name:** Elk Creek Watershed Council Support

**Applicant:** Elk Creek WC

**Application Description**

---

Project will provide funding for the Coordinator/Executive Director, and operations of the Elk Creek Watershed Council in the northern part of Douglas County. The Council will work with local landowners and state and federal agencies to plan, develop, and implement on-the-ground projects to benefit fish and wildlife, and water quality in the Elk Creek Watershed, and in the Umpqua basin. Key partners are local landowners, Douglas and Umpqua SWCD, ODFW, Roseburg District BLM, and others.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaged and supportive of the council and has recently recruited a new board members. The board continues to work to recruit a member from the timber industry.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working to expand who is involved in the council planning efforts, including engagement of timber companies.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and leading coordination and management of the local weed program.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is looking to try new engagement methods in response to challenges as a result of COVID-19.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, board meeting announcements, agendas and minutes for all meetings. Minutes must include a list of attendees. Information received from this condition will be considered in the 23-25 council capacity merit evaluations.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-022**

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**Project Name:** CWC Council Capacity 21-23

**Applicant:** Calapooia WC

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Calapooia Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council has successfully recruited a new board member and completed a self-evaluation to identify interest groups for future board recruitment.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is actively using its monitoring activities to inform and plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is implementing existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is looking to try new engagement methods in response to challenges that resulted from COVID-19.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-023**

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**Project Name:** Clackamas River Basin Council Capacity Support

**Applicant:** Clackamas River Basin Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Clackamas River Basin Council which. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality –altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council is actively working on board recruitment, with a focus on creating a more diverse and welcoming board.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the Clackamas Partnership.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development through the new Clackamas Implementation FIP.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB’s merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-024**

---

**Project Name:** Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Coast Fork Willamette WC

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council has successfully recruited new board members from different areas of the watershed, which is bringing new voices to the board.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including engagement with the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council uses multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community and is partnering with new organizations outside their traditional partners to meet the emerging needs of the community.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-025**

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**Project Name:** CSWC GCS 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Columbia Slough WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Columbia Slough Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board has focused on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion training and creating a more inclusive board and organization.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes and working to engage under-represented communities in planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council's work plan demonstrates its actions result in progress toward on-the-ground watershed restoration.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council uses multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including bilingual events.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-026**

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**Project Name:** Johnson Creek Watershed Council 2021-2023 Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Johnson Creek WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Johnson Creek Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board has focused on board recruitment and created a committee to address geographic, racial and ethnic diversity on the board.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the implementation of the Clackamas Partnership SAP.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development both within and outside the new Clackamas Implementation FIP.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including citizen science events spread throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-027**

---

**Project Name:** Long Tom Watershed Council Support

**Applicant:** Long Tom WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Long Tom Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board has focused on board recruitment and is working to address geographic, racial and ethnic diversity on the board and within the organization.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the Willamette Oak Partnership, and is working to expand its work with tribal partners.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community and is looking for opportunities to engage with and support the BIPOC community within the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-028**

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**Project Name:** Marys River Watershed Council - Council Capacity 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Marys River WC

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Marys River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board has focused on board recruitment and created board recruitment and DEI committees to make progress towards a more inclusive organization.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes across the watershed and working with a diversity of partners to plan the work of the council.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-029**

---

**Project Name:** Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council Capacity Application 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Middle Fork Willamette WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council and the council is actively working on board recruitment.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes across the watershed and working with a diversity of partners to plan the work of the council.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community and was able to move some events online during the last year.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-030**

---

**Project Name:** North Santiam Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** North Santiam WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the North Santiam Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board is beginning to focus on board recruitment.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council purposefully adjusted the priorities of the council to support communities impacted by the fall 2020 fires. The council is engaging in multiple planning efforts to assist with fire recovery.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts and fire recovery.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community and provide critical information to support fire recovery.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-031**

---

**Project Name:** Pudding River Watershed Council Capacity Grant 2021 - 2023

**Applicant:** Pudding River WC

**Application Description**

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This project will enable the council to continue partnership support to various state and federal agencies currently relying on the Council for their role in organizing the grassroots in an otherwise difficult to access demographic area. Limiting factors include high stream temperatures due to a lack of riparian vegetation, over-appropriation of stream flow in the summer, numerous fish passage barriers, erosion and sedimentation, invasive plant species, wetland degradation, lack of floodplain connectivity and low public engagement.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board is beginning to focus on board recruitment to better represent the communities of the watershed.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is using rapid bio assessment results to help plan future restoration actions of the council and is engaged in the local SIA work with the Marion SWCD.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts and fire recovery.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to adjust its stakeholder engagement strategy in response to COVID-19 and has relied on personnel communication to stay in touch with key partners.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-035**

---

**Project Name:** Scappoose Bay Watershed Council, Capacity 21-23

**Applicant:** Scappoose Bay WC

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council which. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board is beginning to focus on engagement with those industry groups not active with the council with the hope of improving communication and coordination.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council has been actively leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community and have resulted in restoration projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts and fire recovery.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council regularly hosts community events, including work with its native plant nursery.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,46

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-036**

---

**Project Name:** South Santiam Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** South Santiam WC

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the South Santiam Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and engagement during a period of transition between council coordinators.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is leading and engaging with several local planning efforts, including beginning to work on a new strategic plan and began working with the Partners of the South Santiam.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council has focused on engaging private landowners for future conservation opportunities.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020 that provides an update on the council's board development actions.



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-037**

---

**Project Name:** Tualatin River Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** Tualatin River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Tualatin River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board is currently reviewing and updating its bylaws to broaden who is eligible to be a board member with a focus on being more representative of the diverse watershed community.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is leading and engaging in both organizational and local planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community and is planning for future stakeholder engagement actions.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-038**

---

**Project Name:** McKenzie Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** McKenzie Watershed Alliance

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the McKenzie River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board recently added two new members and is focusing on building a more diverse board in the future.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is leading and engaging in both organizational and local planning efforts, including the Pure Watershed Partnership and in response to the Holiday Farm Fire.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts. The council is also active, with other partners implementing projects in response to the Holiday Farm Fire.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, has completed almost 200 landowner site visits in response to the Holiday Farm Fire.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-039**

---

**Project Name:** Greater Yamhill Watershed Council Capacity 2021 - 2023

**Applicant:** Greater Yamhill Watershed Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Greater Yamhill Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board has focused on organizational management and oversight and has a plan for expanded administrative support for the 2021-2023 biennium.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is leading efforts around monitoring and assessments in the watershed and using the information collected to inform future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council, with local partners, is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including landowner engagement for the local SIA.

**Concerns**

The council struggles with meeting reporting deadlines. The council would benefit from the part-time administrative assistant proposed in the 2021-2023 budget.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The council is required to submit quarterly progress reports and request for funds.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-040**

---

**Project Name:** Klamath Watershed Partnership Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Klamath Watershed Partnership

**Application Description**

---

The project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator position and operating expenses for the Klamath Watershed Partnership. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality-altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and direction to the council. The council board is working to recruit new board members with a focus on recruiting a member from the Klamath Tribes.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin, including on the Upper Klamath Lake Action Plan.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts. The council is involved in restoration work as a result of the 242 Fire.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement within the basin and looking to reassess its approaches in response to lessons learned through the last year.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-041**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity Grant 2019-2021 Crooked River W.C.

**Applicant:** Crooked River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Crooked River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board and are staff working to improve overall organizational governance and management, including the upcoming process to review the council's organizational strategic plan.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin, including with NRCS on a RCPP grant.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects, including the completion of the Opal Springs Fish Passage project, and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement within the basin and is targeting landowner outreach in two specific basins.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-042**

---

**Project Name:** Gilliam-East John Day Watershed Council Capacity 2021-2023

**Applicant:** Gilliam SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Gilliam-East John Day Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator. The council took a leadership role during the recent council coordinator transitions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including Placed Based Planning, SIA, John Day Partnership and RCPP.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement within the basin and is targeting landowner outreach in relation to the RCPP program.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings. Minutes must include a list of attendees. Information received from this condition will be considered in the 23-25 council capacity merit evaluations.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-043**

---

**Project Name:** Hood River Watershed Group Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Hood River SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Hood River Watershed Group. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator. The council board is assessing its structure and considering how to better connect with additional community members including the Lantinx and small business communities.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including Hood River Partnership SAP.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement and successfully transitioned to offering meeting and other events online during the last year.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-044**

---

**Project Name:** Middle Deschutes Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Jefferson SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Middle Deschutes Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator. The council coordinator and board are working to fill a vacant tribal position on the board. The council took a leadership role during the recent council coordinator transitions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with the SWCD to plan for future restoration opportunities within the Trout Creek watershed, this includes monitoring work that will inform future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working with the SWCD to recruit landowners in the Willow Creek watershed for future restoration actions.

**Concerns**

The council could do a better job describing its niche within the watershed and how the council and SWCD work independently and collaboratively to achieve collective ecological outcomes.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2022 describing its progress on restoration and stakeholder engagement actions.



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-045**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity - Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board consists of many long-serving members who take an active role in leadership and management of the council.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is leading and partnering on several local planning efforts including the SIA and Warner Basin FIP.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development that support their ongoing planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is very active in the community and uses a diversity outreach methods to engage the local community .

**Concerns**

The council has many long-standing board members and would benefit from the development of a board recruitment plan to ensure the council continues to maintain an engaged board into the future.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-046**

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**Project Name:** Sherman County Area Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** Sherman County Area WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Sherman County Area Watersheds Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board consists of many long-serving members who have worked together, with the SWCD, to provide oversight of the council during the recent coordinator transitions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is working with the SWCD on a local SIA and with the SWCD and NRCS on a future Conservation Implementation Strategy.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is continues to work with the SWCD to make progress on restoration actions and plan for future projects tied to planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working with the SWCD to engage landowners in the SIA geography for futures restoration actions.

**Concerns**

The council has many long-standing board members and would benefit from the development of a board recruitment plan to ensure the council's strong and engaged board continues into the future. The could do a better job describing its niche within the watershed and how the council and the SWCD work independently and collaboratively to achieve ecological outcomes.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings. Information received from this condition will be considered in the 23-25 council capacity merit evaluations.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-047**

---

**Project Name:** Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Upper Deschutes WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and effective governance and management during executive director transition. The board is working to diversify the board and has created a board committee to focus on this issue.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including leading the development of a SAP for the Upper Deschutes basin.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement and successfully transitioned to offering meeting and other events online during the last year.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-048**

---

**Project Name:** Wasco County Area Watershed Councils

**Applicant:** Wasco SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Wasco Area Watershed Councils. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access -impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and effective governance and management by working to strengthen the coordinating board.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts and continues surface and groundwater monitoring efforts to inform future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement and successfully offered a variety of events during the last year.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions:**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-049**

---

**Project Name:** Grande Ronde Model Watershed

**Applicant:** Grande Ronde Model WS Foundation

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Grande Ronde Model Watershed. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and effective governance and management during the executive director transition early in the biennium..

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including the Upper Grande Ronde Placed Based Planning effort.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement and initiated a citizen science program.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-050**

---

**Project Name:** Harney County WC Council Support 21-2023

**Applicant:** Harney County Watershed Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Harney County Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board consists of many long-serving members who take an active role in leadership and management of the council. The council is working to address board recruitment challenges, especially from more rural parts of the watershed.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts including Placed Based Planning work and is planning on adopting a new strategic plan in 2021.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on stakeholder engagement and planning to develop an updated outreach plan in 2021-2023.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2022. The progress report must describe the council's progress on its strategic plan and new outreach plan.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-051**

---

**Project Name:** Malheur Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Malheur WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Malheur Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board consists of many long-serving members who take an active role in leadership and management of the council. The board is working to address board recruitment challenges, focusing on gender and age diversity.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is using monitoring data to help inform future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-052**

---

**Project Name:** North Fork John Day Watershed Council Capacity 2021-23

**Applicant:** North Fork John Day WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the North Fork John Day Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator. The council board has identified board membership gaps and is actively working to fill those gaps with new board members.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts, including the John Day Partnership.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-053**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity 21-23

**Applicant:** Umatilla Basin WS Foundation

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Umatilla Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates some ***effective governance and management***. The council board is working through the loss of some long-standing board members and reassessing when and where council meetings are held to try and recruit new members. The council board should work to improve its communication with the executive director to ensure timely communication with project partners and funders.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council worked with local partners to complete the Birch Creek assessment and is working with landowners to identify and prioritize barriers for future removal.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***some progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council completed one restoration project during the current biennium and has not recently applied for any future restoration projects through OWEB. The council does have a technical assistance grant to design a future restoration project.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed including focusing on landowners impacted by recent flooding.

**Concerns**

While the council demonstrates some ***effective governance and management***, ***they*** continue to struggle with meeting reporting deadlines and timely communication with OWEB staff. This leads to missed final and project reporting deadlines, which can impact the success of projects and of the council.

In addition, the council has experienced significant board turnover during the last year. The council would benefit from the development of a board recruitment plan to ensure a strong and engaged board into the future.

While the council demonstrates some ***progress in on-the ground watershed restoration***, ***they*** have wrapped up existing restoration projects and have not yet determined where it will focus future restoration actions.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
**2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant**  
**Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications**

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it is on a trajectory to meet all of OWEB's merit criteria and is recommended for full funding. However, the council has struggled in the area of restoration and board governance and management during the last biennium. To support the council and help ensure it has the encouragement to invest energy into both areas, OWEB staff recommend a set of funding conditions, described below, to set benchmarks for the council to meet during the next biennium.

**Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full funding

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

- The council coordinator and board officers must meet with OWEB by June 30, 2022 to discuss progress on organizational management and governance and restoration outcomes.
- The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.
- The council must submit an updated council work plan by August 30, 2021.
- The council is required to submit quarterly progress reports and quarterly request for funds. Progress reports will address progress on items listed in the council's work plan.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-054**

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**Project Name:** Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council 2019-2021 Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Walla Walla Basin Watershed Foundation

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council and especially during the recent executive director transition. The board is working with staff to create a more diverse and inclusive board that is representative of the community.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts throughout the basin.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 11, 2021 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 222-055**

---

**Project Name:** Mid John Day-Bridge Creek Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Bridge Creek WC

**Application Description**

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This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Mid John Day-Bridge Creek Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council in this very rural and sparsely part of the state. The board is working to recruit new board members and find ways to engage the community through phone-in and virtual meeting options.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts throughout the basin and is using monitoring to inform future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
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**Application # 222-056**

---

**Project Name:** Owyhee Watershed Council Capacity 21-23

**Applicant:** Owyhee WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Owyhee Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The board is working to recruit new board members and find ways to engage the community through phone-in and virtual meeting options.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts throughout the Owyhee and Malheur basins and is working with local partners to plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed and is beginning to use electronic forms of outreach to engage a broader audience.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

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**Application # 222-057**

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**Project Name:** Powder Basin Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** Powder Basin WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Powder Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council, especially during a period of recent staff transition. The board is reviewing its bylaws to consider how best to engage with the community in order to recruit and maintain board and council members.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts throughout the basin and is working with local partners to plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working to engage the local community and is looking for new methods of engagement.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
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**Application # 222-058**

---

**Project Name:** Luckiamute Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Luckiamute WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Luckiamute Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The council is actively working on board DEI training and also board recruitment, focusing on creating a more diverse and welcoming board.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is engaged in multiple planning and monitoring efforts throughout the basin and is working with local partners to plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed and is launching the Mid-Willamette Beaver Partnership to engage community members across the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
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**Application # 222-059**

---

**Project Name:** Greater Oregon City Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Greater Oregon City WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - Impaired access to habitat; hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology; knowledge gaps - lack of information; physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat; water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The council recently added a new board members and is working to more actively engage local tribes.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts with a focus on Abernethy Creek and is working with local partners to plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed and through the Clackamas Partnership.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None



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**Application # 222-060**

---

**Project Name:** Smith River Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Smith River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Smith River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council is made-up of many long-serving board members who provide support, management, and supervision to the council. The council is working to recruit new board members in this rural and watershed.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts with local partners to plan for future restoration actions including leading work on a tidegate inventory.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed and uses its invasive species program as a way to engage landowners.

**Concerns**

The council has many long-standing board members and would benefit from the development of a board recruitment plan to ensure continued board leadership and engagement into the future.

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, board meeting announcements, agendas and minutes. Minutes must include a list of attendees. Information received from this condition will be considered in the 23-25 council capacity merit evaluations.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
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**Application # 222-061**

---

**Project Name:** Lower Nehalem Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Lower Nehalem WC

**Application Description**

---

This project will fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Lower Nehalem Watershed Council (LNWC). The Council has identified several limiting factors for watershed health including hydrologic alterations, impaired habitat access, water quality degradation, and knowledge gaps. These limiting factors impact a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The council has identified board membership gaps and is working to develop new paths to engage interested community members.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is engaged in multiple planning efforts with a focus on anchor habitat and is working with local partners to plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed and with a variety of engagement methods.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
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**Application # 222-062**

---

**Project Name:** Necanicum Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Necanicum WC

**Application Description**

---

The grant will provide operating capacity support for the Necanicum Watershed Council, located in Seaside, Oregon. The Necanicum watershed contains 86 miles of stream habitat for Coho, Chum, fall Chinook, winter steelhead, resident cutthroat trout, brook and Pacific lamprey. Limiting factors include impaired access to habitat, high stream temperatures due to a lack of riparian vegetation, numerous fish passage barriers, erosion and sedimentation, and lack of floodplain connectivity.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The council has identified board membership gaps and is working to develop opportunities to engage interested community members.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is partnering with the local community to plan for future restoration actions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed and with a variety of engagement methods.

**Concerns**

The council has recently lost its council coordinator and would benefit from looking for opportunities to collaborate with neighboring councils to continue to effectively implement restoration projects, engage the local community and build organizational capacity.

**None**

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2021-2023 Council Capacity Grant  
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**Application # 222-063**

---

**Project Name:** South Fork John Day Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** South Fork John Day WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the South Fork John Day Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective governance and management***. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The council is aware its membership is aging and working to recruit new members and plan for transitions.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in planning***. The council is engaged in multiple planning and monitoring efforts throughout the basin and is working with local partners to plan for future restoration actions and update its strategic plan to take a whole watershed approach to planning and restoration.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration***. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning and data collection efforts.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates ***effective progress in community engagement*** for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

---

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
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**Application # 222-064**

---

**Project Name:** Molalla River Watch Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Molalla River Watch Inc

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Molalla River Watch. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Strengths**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective governance and management*. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council. The council has a small board and is working to develop new board recruitment strategies.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in planning*. The council is working closely with partners on a local planning effort and in response to the Lionshead fire.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration*. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future projects linked to current planning.

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates *effective progress in community engagement* for watershed restoration purposes. The council is actively working on engaging local community members throughout the watershed.

**Concerns**

None

**Concluding Analysis**

The council demonstrated it meets all of OWEB's merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest level of funding.

**Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$131,465

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
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**Application # 222-065**

---

**Project Name:** Valley of the Rogue Watershed Council (VOTRWC)

**Applicant:** Valley of the Rogue Watershed Council

**Application Description**

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The VOTRWC encompasses 258,615 acres over 405 sq. miles in Jackson County, Oregon. The Rogue River runs through it with several tributary valleys. The cities of Gold Hill and Rogue River are within its borders. The watershed council has operational costs requiring stable funding including Physical/ Financial Record keeping, Accounting and professional audit services, Government Reports & Fees, Office & Clerical Supplies, Computer Hardware & Software, Liability Insurance premiums, IT setup & maintenance, Legal Services, Subscriptions, Printing & GIS Service, Supplies for assessment, education & restoration project expenses, and a Salaried Administrator familiar with watershed issues & processes. The VOTRWC intends to set up organizational processes providing proficiency & effective restoration and maintenance of the watershed. This requires the basics listed above, but also team building within the council. Of the 5 goals outlined in our CAAP, Organizational Proficiency and Sustainable Funding are foundational to achieving the other 3 goals the VOTRWC aspires to fulfill.

**Review**

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**Strengths**

The council demonstrated some **progress on governance and management**. The current council board members demonstrated lots of enthusiasm for organizing a new watershed council and have worked to implement basic organizational governance and management processes.

**Concerns**

As Identified in the strengths, the council demonstrated some limited progress on effective management and governance. However, through the application and interview process, the council was not able to articulate a clear vision for how the council will operate including the roles and responsibilities of staff vs board members and how staff would be managed by the board. The council board is very interested in being a watershed council but did not demonstrate it is prepared to adopt and implement organizational management and governance best practices necessary to lead a successful watershed council. As a result, overall the council did not demonstrate enough progress in **effective management and governance** to meet this criteria.

The council did not demonstrate **progress in planning** through the application and interview process. The council did not provide a detailed work plan with the application that articulates a vision for the council over the next two years. This is a required component of the application. The council has developed an adopted a basic council action plan, but it is unclear from the application and interview process if it was developed with broader input than just the council board members.

The council did not demonstrate **progress in on-the-ground restoration** through the application and interview process. Neither the council's work plan nor its action plan provide enough detail to understand the future restoration actions the council will pursue. The council would benefit from outside technical support to develop a strategic vision of future restoration work in the

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watershed in collaboration with the broader community. The watershed restoration and planning actions are currently being implemented by adjacent watershed councils, which have been working in this geography since the previous watershed council dissolved in 2018.

The council did not demonstrate ***progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes*** through the application and interview process. The council has identified subbasin chairs for seven of its twelve subwatersheds, but it is unclear how those chairs are engaged with the council board and with their broader watershed communities. The council would benefit from increasing their engagement with stakeholders and community members to collaboratively develop future restoration projects.

**Concluding Analysis**

This watershed council is a new applicant and has formed within the geography of the former Seven Basin Watershed Council. The council board members demonstrated a lot of energy and enthusiasm for being a watershed council but lacked understanding and a plan for how to engage the broader watershed community. It was unclear how the watershed council would use existing watershed planning documents to develop a vision and plan future restoration actions. In the final analysis of the review team, the council showed some limited progress organizational management and governance but did not meet any of the merit criteria required by OWEB to receive funding.

**Recommendations**

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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$0

**Staff Conditions**

N/A



*Agenda Item J supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority #3: Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds.*

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Courtney Shaff, Business Operations Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item J- Organization Collaboration Grant Awards  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### **I. Introduction**

This staff report provides an overview of the 2021 Organization Collaboration grant offering and staff funding recommendations. Staff request the board approve the funding recommendations outlined in Attachment A to the staff report.

### **II. Background**

OWEB initially began offering Organizational Collaboration grants in July 2013. The funding is intended to support new, or expand, strategic collaborations to build resilient, sustainable, local organizations that achieve ecological outcomes and engage communities. Organizational Collaboration grants may support the following activities:

- Mergers/consolidations
- Development of formal alliances, i.e. an arrangement between two or more organizations to work together on a mutually beneficial project while retaining organizational independence.
- Development of action networks, i.e. a network of organizations that seek complete alignment to achieve specific objectives.

The applicants must demonstrate that the options being considered will strengthen the impact and build resiliency and sustainability of multiple organizations to help increase their ability to engage local communities and implement restoration and/or acquisition projects on the ground.

### **III. Solicitation Process**

In the fall of 2020, staff announced the reopening of the Organization Collaboration grant offering from 2019 that was paused due to COVID-19. The deadline for applications was May 30, 2021. Staff will run a second offering this biennium in early 2022.

Prior to submitting a proposal, applicants are required to participate in a consultation with staff. During the consultations, staff discuss the purpose of the program, allowable activities, evaluation criteria, and timing.



#### **IV. Review**

Four applications were received by the May 30, 2021 application deadline. Each partnership was interviewed by OWEB staff and review team members. The interviews included board and staff members from each of the partnering organizations listed in the application. The interview focused on the evaluation criteria, Attachment B, including understanding how the existing structure limits capacity for stakeholder engagement and conservation actions, the collective partnership capacity and commitment to the proposal, and the likelihood that the project will lead to increased community engagement and implementation of restoration and/or acquisition projects.

#### **V. Current Grant Cycle Staff Funding Recommendations**

Staff recommend funding two of the four applications as described in Attachment A. The organizations recommended have worked together in various forms for many years and have used their own financial and human capital to develop current partnership structure. The application and interview process demonstrated the organizations are committed to this process and ready to explore organizational options to improve their collective capacity to engage stakeholders and implement conservation actions.

Staff believe that the two applications that are not recommended for funding are pursuing meaningful collaborative work that was initiated through previous Organizational Collaboration grants. As described in the evaluations in Attachment B, both partnerships are seeking funding to support general capacity to continue their collaborative efforts but did not identify a specific deliverable that would be eligible under this grant program. Staff will work with these partnerships by providing feedback and guidance if they wish to apply for the next grant offering.

#### **VI. Recommendations**

Staff recommend the board award the Organization Collaboration grants as described in Attachment A.

#### **Attachments**

- A. Evaluations
- B. Evaluation Criteria

# Organizational Collaboration Application Evaluation

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## OVERVIEW

**Project #:** 222-8070 - 19680

**OWEB Region:** 3

**Partnership Name:** Upper Willamette Stewardship Network

**Application Name:** Long Tom Watershed Council

**Requested Amount:** \$75,000

## Applicant's Summary

The Upper Willamette Stewardship Network (Network) consists of six conservation organizations from the Upper Willamette basin including: Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council (CFWWC); Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council (MFWWC); Long Tom Watershed Council (LTWC); McKenzie Watershed Council (MWC); McKenzie River Trust (MRT); and the Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah (Friends). We collaborate and with a wide range of partners to advance our mission to work with communities to care for land and water in the Upper Willamette.

With the support of our network coordinator, executive directors, staff, and boards, we will continue to build the Network's foundation: growing relationships based on trust and mutual support to pursue our most strategic and emergent opportunities while addressing shared challenges, redundancies, and knowledge gaps among member organizations. This second phase will focus on implementing the strategies and frameworks developed for successful collaboration that we created over the last 18 months with OWEB's support. In this phase, we will empower our Project Teams as the engines of collaborative action, engaging staff and partners to identify shared priorities across the landscape, and develop opportunities. Together we will refine and begin to implement strategies for long-term financial sustainability and effective management of shared resources. We will cooperate to better understand and act upon emerging opportunities and enhance our impact on the landscape. OWEB funds will pay for our Network Coordinator and staff time from each organization.

## REVIEW SUMMARY

### Application strengths identified during review include:

- The partnership has worked together for several years; and has spent considerable resources to develop the current collaborative structure to develop shared actions.
- The partnership has made considerable progress in completing activities funded in the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network Phase I Collaboration Grant, including the development of action teams to support collective work around DEI, Tribal Engagement, Fundraising and Outreach.
- The relationships built through this collaborative work helped the partners collectively respond to the Holliday Farm fire.

**Application concerns identified during review include:**

- The application does not identify a specific action to be funded under this proposal that aligns with the purpose of the Organizational Collaboration grant program.
- Some of the actions proposed by the partnership, such as the development of a fundraising strategy, are not eligible for OWEB funding.
- It is unclear how the partnership will maintain capacity support to sustain collaboration efforts in future years.

**Concluding Analysis**

The Upper Willamette Stewardship Network (UWSN) has been collaborating for many years and has invested significant financial and human capital to begin discussions around how collaboration can look different in their collective geography. The groups made progress under the previous Organizational Collaboration grant to develop a shared vision, governance structures and project teams. The UWSN is now seeking on-going partnership funding to support the continued growth and work of the partnership. This is valuable work, however, on-going investment in collaborative partnership capacity is not the intent of the Organizational Collaboration grant funds. These grants are intended to support partnerships proposing efforts that lead towards making organizational changes that will create efficiencies and increase stakeholder engagement and restoration outcomes.

**Review Team Priority Ranking:** N/A

**Review Team Recommendation:** Do Not Fund

**Staff Recommendation:** Do Not Fund

**Amount:** \$0

## **OVERVIEW**

**Project #:** 222-8071 - 19467

**OWEB Region:** 6

**Partnership Name:** Umatilla County SWCD and Umatilla County Weed Department Collaboration Effort

**Application Name:** Umatilla SWCD

**Requested Amount:** \$54,945

## **Applicant's Summary**

Umatilla County SWCD and Umatilla County Weed Department seek to explore the opportunity of further collaboration between the two entities. The intention of this grant is to hire a contractor through a competitive RFP that would analyze both organizations at their fullest extent and then present alternatives including options of resource combination, staff sharing, combined service delivery, and potentially even organization combination.

## **REVIEW SUMMARY**

### **Application strengths identified during review include:**

- The SWCD and Weed Board staff have been thinking about this for a long-time and are prepared to work together to find collective solutions to their organizational challenges.
- The SWCD board is well informed and committed to this work.
- The staff from both organizations have carved out time to do this work.
- Both organizations have clearly identified the challenges they are trying to resolve through this collaborative effort.
- The partners have set realistic goals for what they want to achieve under this proposal.

### **Application concerns identified during review include:**

- The partners have identified a need for both facilitation and legal support, it will be hard to find one person to provide both services.
- This effort could take more staff time and resources than the partners realize.
- The partners have lots of ideas of what a future collaborative model could look like and will need a skilled facilitator to help them work out the specific details and get community buy-in.
- The Weed board is small and not very engaged; however, they are very supportive of this application and proposed collaboration efforts.

## **Concluding Analysis**

The Umatilla SWCD and Umatilla County Weed Board are two distinct organizations that have identified several organizational challenges that they want to address through the development of a new collaborative model. The staff and boards of both organizations are supportive of this effort this grant. Sustained board engagement during discussions and decision making will be a challenge both groups need to address. There are many legal and financial considerations that the organizations will have to consider during this process, and it will be very important to hire skilled professionals to facilitate this effort.

**Review Team Priority Ranking:** N/A

**Review Team Recommendation:** Fund

**Staff Recommendation:** Fund

**Amount:** \$54,945

## **OVERVIEW**

**Project #:** 222-8072 - 19663

**OWEB Region:** 2

**Partnership Name:** Partnership Exploration - Coos and Coquille Watershed Associations

**Application Name:** Coquille Watershed Association

**Requested Amount:** \$75,000

## **Applicant's Summary**

Through this grant, the Coos and Coquille Watershed Associations will take a careful look at what type of partnership model between our two organizations could most optimally benefit to our ability to serve our communities effectively in the long term. The need for this initiative is that it will help each organization be resilient and stable – ultimately resulting in maintaining/enhancing programs that directly benefit watershed health. Primary activities will include the following phases: Phase 1 Exploration - learn more about our own organization, the other organization, the options for potential partnerships, understand partner perspectives and the challenges and opportunities that each of these options provide. Phase 2 Negotiations – negotiating all of the issues needing to be addressed in order for the full boards to be prepared to select and vote on partnership model, development of the plan for an integrated partnership and financial due diligence. OWEB funds will support contractor and staff time for these activities as well as general meeting facilitation supplies. This will occur primarily in Coos County. Project partners include the two watershed councils. External partners and supporters will also be engaged throughout the process so that the organizations can provide updates to stakeholders and receive feedback and answer questions.

## **REVIEW SUMMARY**

### **Application strengths identified during review include:**

- The two watershed councils have worked together for more than a year and hired an experienced consultant to assist them in the development of this proposal and the exploration of collaboration options.
- Both boards have been very engaged in the dialog and shaping of the collaboration conversation since the beginning of this process and are well informed and committed to this effort, taking a thoughtful and open-minded approach.
- The council executive directors and boards and engaged with and sought input from staff.
- Both organizations have clearly identified the challenges they are trying to resolve through this collaborative effort.
- The councils have a long history of collaborating on restoration and monitoring work and are seeking to increase their collective capacity through this collective effort.

### **Application concerns identified during review include:**

- Both watershed councils are successful in their communities and have committed staff and boards with long established connections to the communities they live in and serve. It will be challenging to develop a collective culture while also maintaining individual identities.

## **Concluding Analysis**

The organizations have a long history of working collaboratively to support each other and achieve conservation outcomes in their communities. The executive directors and board members are committed to increasing their collective capacity and resilience over the long-term. They organizations are working with an experienced facilitator and are committed to an open and transparent process and the development of a plan that will result in resilient, effective organizations with increased capacity for restoration and outreach work.

**Review Team Priority Ranking:** N/A

**Review Team Recommendation:** Fund

**Staff Recommendation:** Fund

**Amount:** \$75,000

## **OVERVIEW**

**Project #:** 222-8073 - 19683

**OWEB Region:** 3

**Partnership Name:** The Confluence

**Application Name:** Marys River WC

**Requested Amount:** \$71,011

## **Applicant's Summary**

The Confluence seeks OWEB support to build collaborative capacity to further our work with communities in Corvallis and surrounding areas to care for land, water, and the many lives that rely on these resources. Project partners, and members of The Confluence, include Cascade Pacific RC&D, the Corvallis Environmental Center, Greenbelt Land Trust (GLT), the Institute for Applied Ecology, and Marys River Watershed Council (MRWC). The major challenge that all Confluence partners have encountered is limited time and capacity within their individual organizations. While we have seen impressive dedication from EDs, Boards, and Staff, a shared need identified by all members is the need for a Coordinator to allow us to move forward strategically and be responsive to emergent opportunities and needs within our communities. The expanded capacity provided by the Project Coordinator proposed within this project will allow for our collaborative to be more efficient and transparent, while also simultaneously helping The Confluence EDs, Board, and Staff devote their limited time to strategically building collaborative sustainability and addressing shared challenges.

OWEB support will cover staff time for The Confluence to hire a 0.5 FTE Project Coordinator, partner organization time to help lay the groundwork for and supervise this position, and supplies related to this project.

## **REVIEW SUMMARY**

### **Application strengths identified during review include:**

- Staff and board members of the collaborating organizations have invested considerable time and energy to get the partnership to this point.
- The partnership has made significant progress towards their vision of co-location and need additional assistance to make the collaboration vision a reality.
- The partnership has a diversity of ideas about how they can collaborate and share services once they are co-located and seem committed to turning these ideas into reality.

### **Application concerns identified during review include:**

- Some of the actions proposed by the partnership, such as the development of a collaborative fundraising strategy and environmental education, are not eligible for OWEB funding.
- The partnership is seeking a facilitator/administrative assistant to help the partnership develop details for various shared services ideas, however the partnership did not identify a specific product to be developed under this proposal that aligns with the purpose of the Organizational Collaboration grant program.



- The partnership has not yet worked out the details on how they would collectively supervise the shared facilitator/administrative assistant position.

### **Concluding Analysis**

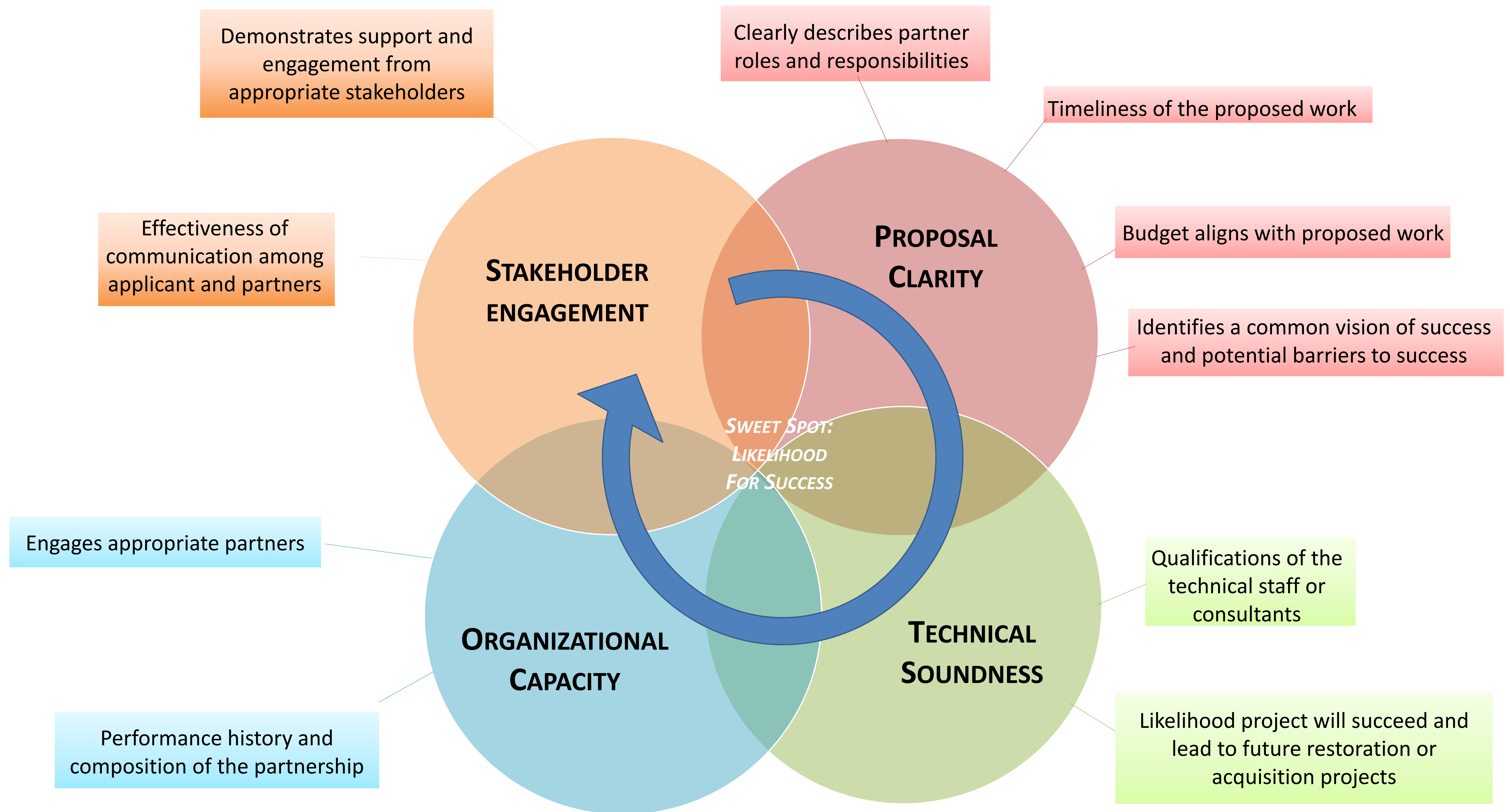
The Confluence partnership has been collaborating for many years and has invested significant staff and board member time and resources to make their co-location idea become a reality. The groups made progress under the previous Organizational Collaboration grants to develop the concepts around co-location. The Confluence is now seeking part-time support to develop the details around shared services. This is valuable work that will lead to increased efficiencies and successful collaboration in the long-term, however the partnership did not describe a specific deliverable under this proposal that aligns with the intent of the Organizational Collaboration grant funds, which are to support partnerships that want to make organizational changes to create efficiencies and increase stakeholder engagement and restoration outcomes.

**Review Team Priority Ranking:** N/A

**Review Team Recommendation:** Do Not Fund

**Staff Recommendation:** Do Not Fund

**Amount:** \$0



**Evaluation Criteria**  
**OAR 695-030-0045(3)a-j**



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
**WATERSHED**  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
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*Agenda Item K. supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority #6: Coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Renee Davis, OWEB Deputy Director  
Ken Fetcho, Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item K – Stage 0 Monitoring Investment  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

Staff and partners from the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council and the McKenzie Watershed Alliance will provide an update on the progress made to date to implement a multi-pronged approach to address monitoring and information needs for Stage 0 restoration in Whychus Creek and the South Fork McKenzie River. Staff will provide a summary of the workshop that was convened in November 2020 to bring together practitioners, researchers, regulators and other partners to discuss current topics and data gaps related to implementing and monitoring restoration projects intended to achieve a Stage 0 condition.

### II. Background

Recently, there has been increased interest in process-based approaches that create complex river channels and floodplains. One such approach for wide alluvial valleys is called Stage 0 restoration, which restores fluvial processes at the valley scale. Typically, this process occurs by filling previously incised channels with native materials (e.g., gravels, soil, and large wood), then letting the river valley shape itself in response to environmental drivers, such as floods, and biological drivers such as riparian forest development and beaver damming.

OWEB's spending plan line item, Quantifying Conservation Outputs and Outcomes, supports investments to evaluate specific types of restoration actions at broad geographic and/or temporal scales through targeted funding. At the July 2019 meeting, the board approved a staff request for up to \$360,000 for monitoring and information sharing associated with Stage 0 restoration approaches. This award was framed as a staged funding request for these work items, with initial funding requested during the 2019-21 biennium and subsequent funding to be provided in the 2021-2023 biennium, based on progress reporting to the board.

Three grants were subsequently awarded as a result of the July 2019 award:

- Monitoring grant awarded to the McKenzie Watershed Alliance for effectiveness monitoring of a multi-phased restoration project in the South Fork McKenzie River (Upper Willamette Basin) and data compilation and synthesis of existing knowledge about Stage 0 restoration;
- Monitoring grant awarded to the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council for effectiveness monitoring—including developing and implementing remote sensing approaches—of a multi-phased restoration project in Whychus Creek (Upper Deschutes Basin); and
- Stakeholder engagement grant awarded to the Institute for Natural Resources at Oregon State University plan and convene a workshop to bring together a range of partners to share knowledge, describe concerns and considerations about this restoration approach, identify monitoring and information needs, and articulate best practices for restoration to a Stage 0 condition.

Monitoring activities in both watersheds include biological, geomorphic, physical habitat, and water quality monitoring. The monitoring utilizes a mix of ground-based methods and remote sensing approaches.

At the July 2021 meeting, the board will hear reflections from the monitoring grantees and OWEB staff about progress to date to discuss ongoing monitoring and communication needs.

### **III. Next Steps**

Based on the restoration and monitoring progress to date, staff will work with the grantees to discuss the needs for a second phase of funding for effectiveness monitoring and continue to develop communication and coordination opportunities for Stage 0 restoration partners during the 2021-23 biennium. Staff will work with the Monitoring Committee during Fall of 2021 to consider options for subsequent funding requests for monitoring and effectiveness monitoring and information sharing. These requests are anticipated to be presented to the board later in the 2021-23 biennium.

### **IV. Recommendation**

This is an information item only.

### **Attachments**

- A. Upper Deschutes Watershed Council two-page restoration and monitoring summary
- B. McKenzie Watershed Alliance two-page restoration and monitoring summary
- C. Stage 0 Restoration and Monitoring Workshop Executive Summary

## Whychus Creek Stage 0 Restoration Geomorphic and Habitat Analysis Study

**OWEB Grant: 220-7000-17323**

**Submitted by Lauren Mork, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council (UDWC)**

### Background

The *Whychus Creek Stage 0 Restoration Geomorphic and Habitat Analysis Study* is convening a team of technical experts to develop and implement remote and ground-based monitoring approaches for quantifying geomorphic and fish habitat conditions in Stage 0 restoration projects on Whychus Creek. Project partners include Deschutes Land Trust (DLT), US Forest Service (USFS), Portland General Electric (PGE), OR Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (CTWS), and US Geological Survey (USGS).

During UDWC's Phase 1 Stage 0 Effectiveness Monitoring project on Whychus Creek, we convened a technical advisory committee of remote sensing experts, and worked with partners and contractors to collect pre- and post-restoration monitoring data within five reaches of planned or completed Stage 0 projects on Whychus Creek, encompassing 4.2 miles and 297 acres, between river miles 8 and 17. The restoration approaches taken to restore the valley bottom to a Stage 0 condition employ a variety of actions. These restoration approaches vary from using heavy equipment to fill incised channels with sediment from adjacent floodplain terraces to applying low-tech process-based techniques using post assisted log structures in the stream channel and beaver dam analogs on the floodplain. These actions accelerate geomorphic processes that promote channel and floodplain evolution toward a Stage 0 condition.

In summer 2020, UDWC worked with a contractor to acquire multi-spectral orthomosaic imagery and aerial photo and video plots for each of these five reaches. These imagery products supported analysis of five key geomorphic and ecological metrics with analysis of a sixth key metric ongoing. These metrics include:

- Area inundated by surface water,
- Area of large wood and large wood interacting with water at three flow return intervals,
- Land cover including woody and herbaceous riparian vegetation,
- Sediment size,
- Geomorphic (habitat) units, and
- Velocity

Concurrent with imagery acquisition, UDWC used ground-based measurements to collect geomorphic data within ~60 plots across the five reaches. These data validated analyses from aerial imagery where applicable, and quantified additional geomorphic and habitat attributes. Ground-based data collection included:

- |                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Geomorphic unit               | • Depth            |
| • Velocity                      | • Flow azimuth     |
| • Temperature                   | • Canopy cover     |
| • Wood jam measurements         | • Large wood count |
| • Modified Wolman pebble counts |                    |

Monitoring techniques developed using this remote sensing technology will be described in a forthcoming instructional guide, which will serve as a protocol for analysis, and in a recorded training webinar, to make them accessible to other practitioners and more easily applied to other Stage 0 restoration projects. A technical report will summarize monitoring results from both remote sensing analyses and ground-based measurements, contextualize these results within existing, complementary restoration project monitoring data, and detail recommendations for revisions to methods and protocols in the next phase of Stage 0 Effectiveness Monitoring. The metrics analyzed using this approach are important because they are providing key information about Stage 0 attributes that 1) are costly and labor-intensive to collect using traditional ground-based survey methods and 2) are absent or infrequently observed in simplified, single-channel systems. We are also learning which metrics are most effectively and efficiently measured using ground-based methods, and which are more effectively measured using remote sensing methods. This information will be incorporated into Phase 2 Stage 0 effectiveness monitoring on Whychus Creek, to be implemented in 2022.

UDWC also contributed monitoring data to the Stage 0 data synthesis led by USFS PNW Research Station and to a series of practitioners' workshops resulting in a conceptual model for Stage 0.

### **Delays to restoration and effects on monitoring**

Subsequent restoration projects at Whychus Canyon originally scheduled for implementation in 2020 were delayed because of COVID. Rather than hindering our monitoring work, this allowed more flexibility in our summer 2020 timeline for imagery acquisition and ground-based data collection.

### **Adjusted timeline for restoration and monitoring**

Delays in implementing Whychus Canyon Phase IIa and a fish passage barrier removal restoration project in 2020 are resulting in our two additional Stage 0 restoration projects that were originally slated for 2021 and 2022 (Whychus Canyon Phase IIb and Willow Springs), being re-scheduled for implementation in 2022 or 2023. As a result, the Phase 2 Stage 0 Effectiveness Monitoring proposed for 2022 will accomplish post-restoration monitoring for one new restoration project, as well as for two projects, Camp Polk Reaches 1 & 2 and Whychus Canyon Phase I, where the new monitoring methods were piloted in 2020.

Implementation of subsequent phases of restoration in Whychus Canyon will occur in 2021 and will allow us to use the remote sensing and analysis and ground-based data collection methods developed in 2020 to directly compare pre- and post-restoration conditions one year after restoration implementation in 2022. UDWC will work with OWEB staff to prepare a funding request for Phase 2 of Stage 0 Effectiveness Monitoring on Whychus Creek.

## **Stage 0 Restoration Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring Project Summary**

**OWEB Grant: 220-7000-17342**

**Submitted by Jared Weybright, McKenzie Watershed Alliance**

### **Background**

The *Evaluating Ecological and Geomorphic Responses to Stage 0 Restoration Monitoring Project* is a cooperative effort to examine the linked physical and ecological responses to Stage 0 restoration at the South Fork McKenzie River (South Fork). Phases I and II of the restoration project were completed in 2018 and 2019, respectively, with additional phases originally planned for 2021 and 2023. The multi-disciplinary monitoring project, initiated in 2019, relies upon a combination of remote sensing with unmanned aerial sensors (UASs, or drones) and field transects to monitor wood, substrate, water velocity, inundation area, and vegetation. Biological responses are being assessed through a combination of benthic macroinvertebrate (BMI) sampling, eDNA analysis, long-term Chinook salmon spawning surveys, Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tagging of juvenile spring Chinook, and a food web study. Partners include OWEB, US Forest Service (USFS) Willamette National Forest (WNF), USFS Pacific Northwest Research Station (PNW), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Oregon State University (OSU), and McKenzie Watershed Alliance (MWA).

### **Multi-Disciplinary Study of the South Fork McKenzie River**

Drone flights in the Phase I project area were completed in late summer 2019 (August and September), early spring 2020 (April), and fall 2021. OSU researchers have processed the wide-area imagery into a true-color geo-referenced orthomosaic, a digital surface model derived from “structure from motion” processing, and the point cloud from the entire study area which captures the structure of the vegetation. These very high-resolution images enable the measurement of large woody material, bed texture, and sediment size distribution, as well as flow velocity and direction. These data are currently being stored and will be paired with subsequent flights to be completed over the next 3-4 years.

The WNF completed transect monitoring on five sites in the South Fork in the fall of 2019 and anticipates collecting additional data in fall of 2021. Transect surveys were not completed in 2020 due to the Holiday Farm Fire (HFF). Surveyors collect a range of metrics including large wood size and quantity, substrate, water velocity, and depth, and vegetation along each transect. The WNF also collected eDNA and BMI samples from wetted sections along the same five transects in fall 2019, spring 2020, and fall 2020. BMI grab samples are analyzed by Aquatic Biology Associates (ABA), and PNW scientist Shannon Claeson is working with the WNF to analyze and interpret the results. The MWA is currently working with PNW researcher Brooke Penaluna, to develop a contract to process the eDNA samples.

Chinook salmon spawning surveys were completed on the South Fork in 2019 and 2020, though repeated full-census surveys were not possible due to the timing of the HFF. ODFW and the USFS intend to continue working together on redd counts in the South Fork for the duration of the project. ODFW seined and PIT tagged 1,462 juvenile Chinook during the implementation of the South Fork Phase II project in 2019. Tagged fish were monitored by detection arrays placed in three channels at the lower end of the Phase I project area. The detection arrays were operated from July through October 2019. No juvenile Chinook monitoring was completed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the HFF. ODFW intends to reinstall the detection arrays, tag, and monitor additional juvenile Chinook during the summer of 2021.

OSU graduate student Jeremy Jennings, WNF staff, and PNW partnered to perform field sampling associated with the food web study during the fall and winter of 2019 (Phase I) and the spring and summer of 2020 (Phase III and IV). The BMI and fish stomach samples were analyzed by ABA, working in close coordination with OSU and PNW researchers. Plant and fish tissue samples were sent to Idaho State University for isotopic analysis in 2020, with results expected in late 2021. Additional food web field work will be performed to complete initial pre-restoration monitoring throughout 2021.

### **Delays to restoration and effects on monitoring**

The Holiday Farm Fire began on September 7, 2020, during a strong east wind event that passed through western Oregon. The fire started west of McKenzie Bridge, before moving west and ultimately encompassed over 173,000 acres, including the lower South Fork McKenzie River project area. The HFF burned as a high-intensity, stand-replacement fire through much of the floodplain forest surrounding the project area, included the USFS-managed Delta Campground. The varied terrain and enhanced hydraulic connectivity within the South Fork project area appears to have influenced fire behavior and produced a mosaic burn intensity pattern, with much of the project area experiencing low to moderate burn intensity. Based on field observation, it is estimated that less than 5% of the large wood placed during Phase I and II burned during the HFF. Due to access and safety considerations, transect and food web monitoring were not completed as scheduled in fall 2020. The McKenzie River Ranger District made the decision to permanently close Delta Campground due to safety concerns associated with fire-damaged old-growth trees throughout the campground. The closure of the campground presents an opportunity to incorporate over additional 100 acres into the restoration project once the campground and access road are decommissioned. Due to its proximity and hydraulic connectivity, restoration within the Delta Campground project area would be completed prior to the upstream Phase III project area.

The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to the decision to postpone juvenile salmonid PIT tag monitoring in 2020 and the cancellation of portions of plot monitoring associated with UAS analysis. Additionally, a Federally Energy Regulation Commission mandated shutdown of the Leaburg Canal due to structural concerns inhibited ODFW's ability to detect juvenile Chinook at Leaburg Dam on the mainstem McKenzie as originally planned and altered their study design.

### **Adjusted timeline for restoration and monitoring**

The original timeline envisioned a 4-year study from 2019 through 2023, with implementation of the Phase III restoration project to be completed in 2021. The timing of the Phase III restoration project was critical for the original before-after-control-impacts (BACI) elements of the study. Despite delays and slight alterations to the study design necessitated by the pandemic and the HFF, pre-project monitoring, as proposed to OWEB in 2019, will be completed by the end of 2021. The post-project study elements of the BACI design will not be feasible until after implementation of restoration activities within the original Phase III project area, as they are directly tied to the pre-project study area. Project partners anticipate that restoration will occur within the newly accessible Delta Campground area and the originally envisioned Phase III project area over multiple phases in 2023-2025. This timeline allows for post-project BACI study elements to begin in 2024 and continue through 2026. Multiple study disciplines, including BMI sampling, spawning surveys, PIT tag monitoring, UAS flights, and field-transect monitoring, may continue pre-project monitoring in 2022 and 2023, dependent upon available resources and capacity. The post-project elements of the food web study would not be initiated until 2024.



## **Stage 0 Restoration Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring Project Summary**

**OWEB Grant: 220-7000-17342**

**Submitted by Jared Weybright, McKenzie Watershed Alliance**

### **Background**

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# River Restoration to Achieve a Stage 0 Condition Summary of a Workshop

November 5-6, 2020

## Executive Summary

Restoration to achieve Stage 0 is a valley-scale, process-based (hydrologic, geologic and biological) approach that aims to reestablish stream depositional environments to maximize longitudinal, lateral, and vertical connectivity at base flows and facilitate development of dynamic, self-formed and self-sustaining wetland-stream complexes. The term *Stage 0* originally described complex multi-channel conditions and wider floodplains that evidence suggests were common when Euro-Americans arrived. Stage 0 is one stage in a 9-stage stream channel evolution model. Stage 0 is now also more broadly used to describe stream restoration projects aimed at changing the current condition and future evolution of incised, single-channel streams to achieve those multi-channel and wider floodplain conditions.

The Stage 0 approach has generated excitement among restoration practitioners and researchers. It is seen as an action on a scale commensurate with past impacts; potentially capable of putting streams and their floodplains on a trajectory to recovery that is sustainable with minimal future intervention. Projects that reset the valley surface elevation may include the transfer of large amounts of sediment into incised channels from adjacent terraces using heavy machinery, and placement of logs and boulders to create structure across the resulting floodplain. Recreating expanded, complex and resilient stream and floodplain habitats over the longer term may involve considerable short-term disturbance of existing stream environments. Because some of these streams currently support sensitive populations of focal or endangered species (most notably salmonids) projects designed to achieve a Stage 0 condition have raised some questions and concerns among land managers and regulators charged with recovering those species. The approach is relatively new, so there are also questions regarding terminology, implementation and monitoring approaches, and appropriate sites and scale for these projects.

In this science and policy context, a ***Stage 0 Stream Restoration Workshop*** was held on November 5-6, 2020 with the goal to *bring together practitioners, researchers, regulators and other stakeholders to discuss current topics and data gaps related to implementing and monitoring restoration projects intended to achieve a Stage 0 condition*. The online workshop included expert presentations, questions and discussions during plenary sessions, and smaller breakout groups. This document summarizes the workshop proceedings.

## Core themes

Core themes that emerged over the course of the workshop include:

**Stage 0 refers to a stream condition, not a restoration approach.** More precise terms for projects to achieve Stage 0 include: *floodplain reconnection; valley reset; channel-floodplain-wetland corridor restoration/recreation*. A spectrum of methods exist to achieve Stage 0, from low-tech process based

restoration techniques that use beaver dam analog (BDA) and post-assisted log structures (PALS), to large-scale valley reset approaches using heavy equipment to fill incised channels and grade the entire floodplain. Clarification of this spectrum – i.e. a framework for selecting and optimizing locations, appropriate scales and restoration methods for projects – is a key information need for both regulators and practitioners. Not all human-modified stream channels are suitable for restoration to Stage 0.

**Initial results are promising, but projects restoring to Stage 0 require updated monitoring methods and long-term results** to fully assess outcomes associated with these actions. Grid-based sampling could help map variation in water temperature across projects more effectively than linear samples above and below them. Remote sensing can be cost-effective for tracking geomorphological trends and other parameters. To aid with project scenarios and planning, the US Forest Service are assessing options for consistent monitoring data to parameterize a Stage 0 conceptual model. Key issues are salmonid habitat availability after project completion, how these more complex habitats evolve over time, and how fish utilize them. But there are limits to the ecological changes “fish-focused” monitoring can detect. A *synoptic* (“seeing everything together”) approach to monitoring is most appropriate for the complex channel-floodplain-wetland systems these projects are intended to achieve.

**Holistic, long-term monitoring requires sustained commitment and support.** A robust and diverse restoration “community of practice” is emerging to implement and monitor projects to achieve Stage 0 in suitable PNW streams. Agencies, watershed councils and academia are coordinating to leverage available resources and efficiently acquire the additional monitoring data needed to inform adaptive management on these projects. Outreach is needed to demonstrate the need and generate public support for sustained monitoring efforts. But tradeoffs are inevitable when limited funds must be apportioned among new projects to address pressing, immediate environmental problems and sustained, long-term monitoring of projects already implemented.

**There are numerous opportunities to “turn monitoring into science” through additional collaborative studies.** Beyond the primary monitoring focus on salmonids, their habitats and channel geomorphology, there are also rich, untapped opportunities to investigate effects of projects on terrestrial species, e.g. anecdotal evidence of indirect “trophic cascade” benefits such as increased prey for apex predators. Also, of great interest are prospects for examining projects as whole systems by quantifying ecosystem services such as water quality and carbon storage, and to study how projects influence (and potentially mitigate) wildfire behavior and severity.

**Discussions about uncertainties associated with restoration to Stage 0 should be reoriented.** A single-thread, incised channel is more stable and predictable (less uncertain) but also less resilient and biologically productive than a multi-threaded channel that can access its floodplain. Future trajectories and arrangements of habitats in multi-threaded streams are less certain, but these systems are more resilient, diverse and biologically productive. Single incised channels provide fewer options for species of concern and thus more risk. We should focus on our (science-based) *confidence* in restoration to a Stage 0 condition to increase options for these species while acknowledging the risks and trying to minimize them.

**Floodplain reconnection and restoration to Stage 0 may represent another “paradigm shift”** in the evolution of stream restoration techniques, analogous to similar shifts away from the use of rip-rap and toward placements of large wood in a single channel. These changes were initially resisted but with experience, refinement, social learning and time became accepted as standard practice. There may also

be analogies to dam removal where practitioners are increasingly adopting the view that incremental approaches focused on limiting short-term disturbances may risk delaying or preventing meaningful ecosystem uplift in the longer-term.

**There is broad interest in an “information clearinghouse” to foster information sharing** across agencies, practitioners and stakeholders regarding projects to achieve Stage 0 and supporting science. The objective would be to facilitate the emerging Stage 0 *community of practice*, “a group of people who share a concern or a passion for something they do, and learn how to do it better as they interact regularly”. (There were suggestions that a name for the clearinghouse other than “Stage 0” could better clarify its purpose and scope, e.g. *channel-floodplain restoration*.)

The clearinghouse could include:

- A blog or chat group; perhaps moderated and with news updates, e.g. planning for future workshops, field trips, project updates, new publications etc.
- Summaries of existing projects, and summaries of projects in the planning pipeline
- Technical guidance
- Library of relevant peer-reviewed literature and “white” papers on related topics, e.g. design methods, construction practices, monitoring BMPs, contrasts/linkages between different approaches to achieving a Stage 0 condition
- Comparison of projects and reference sites in different areas
- Links to monitoring data as it becomes available

**The “story” of Stage 0 in Oregon is still being written.** Adoption of restoration to achieve a Stage 0 condition has considerable momentum among practitioners and scientists in Oregon, but their learning curve is still fairly steep. Restored areas are still evolving (as expected) and the ramifications for sediment transport and storage, wood movement, water quality, salmonid habitat availability, and fish passage and productivity are still being actively assessed. Effects on other species, resilience to wildfire, and carbon sequestration are mostly unknown but appear positive and potentially significant, and are beginning to be studied. For projects lower in watersheds, there are also questions regarding the potential for impacts on landowners and infrastructure. The effects of larger, less frequent high flows on project areas mostly remain to be seen.

Despite these knowledge gaps, scientists and practitioners at the workshop presented evidence that restoration toward a Stage 0 condition is conceptually sound, initial project results are generally positive, and coordination across the practitioner and science communities is strong. The risks of not taking significant action to restore human altered stream channels in Oregon are seen as quite serious. Some project proponents worry that current efforts may not be sufficient to forestall further declines in populations of salmonids. Expectations for the years ahead include a refined ability to identify appropriate sites for restoration toward Stage 0, and increasing clarity regarding how to tailor implementation methods to the range of opportunities and constraints at each site, in order to achieve maximum benefits and minimize risks.



Kate Brown, Governor



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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item L – Conveyance of Willamette Confluence Property  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This staff report describes an application from McKenzie River Trust (MRT) to assume ownership of the Willamette Confluence Preserve (the Preserve) from The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Staff recommend the Board approve the property conveyance.

### II. Program Requirements

Conveyances of property previously purchased with OWEB funds must comply with ORS 541.960 and OAR 695-045-0210, which include, but are not limited to the requirements that conveyances be made subject to Board approval and shall not result in profit. The Board may require conditions on a conveyance to ensure consistency with the intent of the grant, ensure the ability of the party receiving the land to carry out obligations under the grant, and address conveyance proceeds.

### III. Conveyance Request

The Board awarded land acquisition grant funds to TNC under Grant No. 208-3090-8358 for the fee simple purchase of 1,271 acres of the Preserve, which TNC acquired in 2010. The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) also contributed funds to the property purchase through the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and holds a separate conservation easement. A Memorandum of Understanding between OWEB and BPA requires consultation among the agencies prior to granting approval of the conveyance. TNC purchased the remaining 34 acres of the Preserve with other funding.

The Preserve is in Lane County, at the confluence of the Middle Fork and Coast Fork of the Willamette River. The Preserve was known as the Wildish property when TNC purchased it in October 2010. After the purchase, TNC undertook large-scale restoration of the Preserve.

MRT's application states that TNC did not intend to be the long-term owner of the Preserve at the time of its purchase and began looking for a successor owner in 2019. In 2020, MRT responded to a prospective owner questionnaire prepared by TNC. MRT described its long-term vision for the Preserve and plans for immediate stewardship actions in questionnaire responses and a proposed interim land management plan, which

has been reviewed and approved by OWEB on June 23, 2021, contingent upon approval by BPA with input from its implementing partner, ODFW.

The application states that MRT's focus will be on maintaining the outcome of TNC's restoration projects as well as maintaining healthy watershed function, stewarding priority habitats, and protecting the Preserve from threats associated with invasive species and unauthorized access.

The application states that project partners will include members of the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network, Lane County, indigenous groups, Willamette Valley Tribes, Mount Pisgah Arboretum, and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. These and other entities will be consulted during the creation of a long-term land management plan for the Preserve.

#### **IV. Staff Review**

Staff completed a soundness review of the Preserve's current title circumstances and determined that only minor clarifications will be necessary prior to conveyance of the title to MRT. OWEB will require MRT to obtain title insurance in a form approved by OWEB.

MRT has the appropriate staff and expertise in place for the long-term management and stewardship of the property and has recently increased its staff capacity in anticipation of this conveyance. MRT will receive stewardship funding with the conveyance to support the annual stewardship costs of the property. Annual stewardship costs are estimated by MRT to be \$174,000, including costs for maintenance of restoration areas, invasive species monitoring and control, road, culvert, and bridge maintenance, boundary monitoring, public engagement, and habitat monitoring. Along with the property conveyance, TNC is transferring about \$1,000,000 that remains in a stewardship endowment, and MRT is committed to raising the balance of required funds to meet annual stewardship cost needs. MRT staff have sufficient expertise and processes in place to ensure the conservation values of the property are protected

Staff will prepare a conservation easement amendment and conveyance agreement prior to the conveyance of the Preserve to MRT. The purpose of the documents will be to ensure compliance with applicable statutes and rules, establish the circumstances of the transaction, document MRT's assumption of responsibilities under the grant agreement and conservation easement, and establish other understandings including but not limited to conveyance-related approvals that must be obtained from BPA and ODFW in accordance with the MOU. BPA provided additional funding for the purchase of the Preserve and specified conveyance conditions and requirements in its grant documents.

#### **V. Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommend the Board approve the conveyance of the Willamette Confluence Preserve (OWEB Grant No. 208-3090-8358) from the Nature Conservancy to McKenzie River Trust conditioned on staff and Department of Justice approval of the final form of all conveyance-related circumstances and documents.



*Agenda Item M supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 6: Coordinated Monitoring and Shared Learning.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Audrey Hatch, Conservation Outcomes Coordinator  
Renee Davis, Deputy Director  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item M – *Telling the Restoration Story* Grants Update  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

*Telling the Restoration Story* is a targeted grant offering that helps OWEB and grantees better communicate the ecological outcomes of restoration funded by OWEB. At the July 2021 board meeting, staff will share information about Willanch Creek Restoration to learn what emerged from the board's investment in that effort. This is an information item.

### II. Background

*Telling the Restoration Story* grants support compilation, analysis, and/or interpretation of existing data from a watershed restoration project or projects, and production of outreach materials that describe outcomes from that work. Outreach products aim to reach a broad audience, including board members and legislators. Grantees also identify specific audiences, so the materials developed can be used to communicate with landowners, restoration practitioners, and natural resource managers working to restore similar landscapes in Oregon.

Eight projects have been funded under this offering so far. An [online map](#) provides short summaries and links to completed products as they become available.

### III. *Telling the Restoration Story*: Willanch Creek Restoration

Willanch Creek is a lowland tidally influenced stream that flows into the eastern part of Coos Bay, on the Oregon Coast. Historical agricultural and forestry land uses degraded salmon habitat beginning in the mid-1800s.

The Coos Watershed Association began restoration and monitoring in Willanch Creek in 1995. Restoration actions included riparian plantings, road improvements, road decommissioning, fish passage projects and large woody debris placements. The creek is now 10-Fahrenheit degrees cooler. When compared to the past, water flowing through the creek and floodplain takes a more natural path, contributing to high-quality fish habitat over time. Projects have restored critical Coho Salmon adult access to spawning grounds and juvenile access to the estuary.



Long-term monitoring of these efforts, which has occurred for 21 years, indicates that restored stream habitat and water quality has benefitted native fish, including the Oregon Coast Coho. In 2005 and again in 2010, the Coos Watershed Association reported monitoring results of ongoing and previous activities. These reports described the efforts and results of restoration in Willanch Creek, indicating significant stream temperature reduction in response to restoration.

With *Telling the Restoration Story* funds, Coos Watershed Association was able to update the previous case studies, incorporating more recent stream temperature and salmonid monitoring results. New and updated datasets were analyzed in relation to pre-restoration conditions and trends over the study period. OWEB staff advised on communication product design and story line. The resulting outreach products were highlighted at Coos Watershed Association's board meetings and 25th Birthday Bash, and Trout Unlimited's film festival.

*Telling the Restoration Story* products for Willanch Creek Restoration include 1) a tri-fold brochure summarizing the outcomes from 25 years of restoration work; 2) a 12-page technical report including additional detail about methodologies and data collected; and 3) a short produced video sharing the success story and impacts for the community and local economy (see Attachments A and B). The short video is available online at: [Willanch Creek - An Economic and Environmental Success](#).

More information about Coos Watershed Association is available at <https://cooswatershed.org/>.

#### **IV. Recommendation**

This is an informational item only.

#### **Attachments**

- A. Tri-Fold Brochure: Restoring Willanch Creek: 25 Years of Cooperation Benefitting Salmon
- B. Technical Report: Restoring Willanch Creek: 25 Years of Cooperation Benefitting Salmon



## So What's This All Mean For Fish ... ?

The cumulative efforts to improve and increase the salmon and steelhead population in Willanch Creek includes all types of restoration activities from the estuary to the headwaters. Restored access to spawning and tidal rearing habitats was complemented by reduced summer water temperatures to optimal conditions for juvenile coho and trout.

Because regional and coast wide salmon populations naturally rise and fall due to climate patterns in the Pacific Ocean, it is important to continue long-term monitoring. So far, juvenile and adult salmon monitoring has indicated that salmon and particularly steelhead trout populations are stable through recent years of poor return rates. Without consistent monitoring, these trends in salmon return rates can easily be falsely attributed to any number of local and climatic factors.



## Decreased Stream Temperatures

Lowering stream temperature is an important goal in many stream restoration projects because water temperature (and related dissolved oxygen) is critical to salmon survival. Each summer, from 1997 to 2018, temperature recorders were placed throughout Willanch Creek to measure maximum stream temperature. Water temperature generally increases as water travels downstream, an effect heavily influenced by the amount of shade from riparian vegetation. Over the twenty-one years of temperature data collection, the lower site showed a decrease in temperature from 74.2°F to 64.8°F—a 9.4°F reduction that satisfied the standard well; all sites were under or within 1°F the DEQ temperature standard for over a decade of data collection.

## Partners



LONE ROCK  
RESOURCES



Weyerhaeuser



Menasha Forest  
Products Corporation



LAIRD NORTON  
FAMILY FOUNDATION



## Restoring Willanch Creek

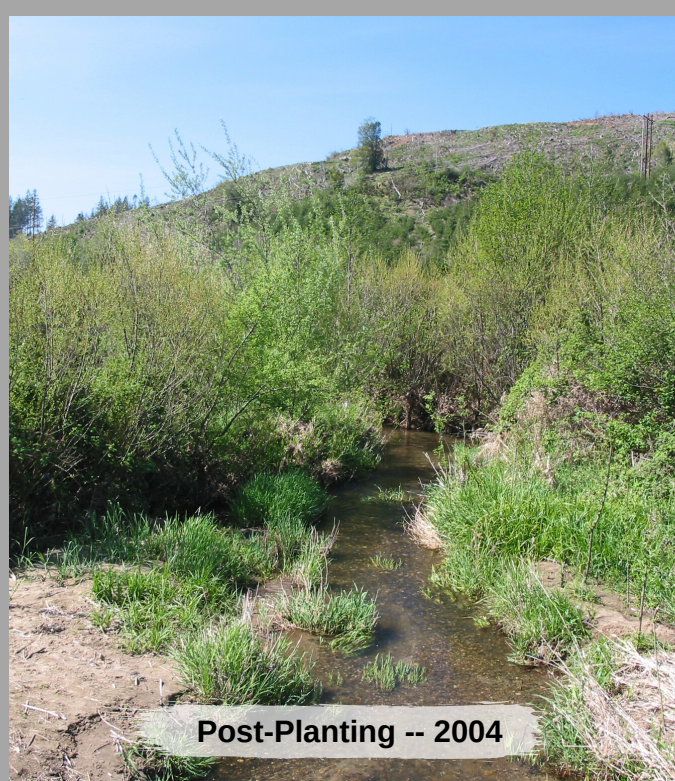
25 Years of Cooperation  
Benefitting Salmon





# Introduction

The Coos Watershed Association's vision for a healthy Willanch Creek was put into action in 1995. After 25 years of building strong partnerships, and completing a wide range of projects, we've been able to demonstrate that the habitat for fish and other wildlife has been improved: today the water is 10°F cooler, and water flowing through the creek and the surrounding floodplain takes a more natural path. This improvement relied on the cooperation and collaboration of five private landowners, three timber companies, four benefactors, the Coos County Road Department, and four different Coos Watershed Association project managers. Places like Willanch Creek, at the nexus of the stream and estuary ecotone, provide critical habitat for salmon to express the full range of life history adaptations.

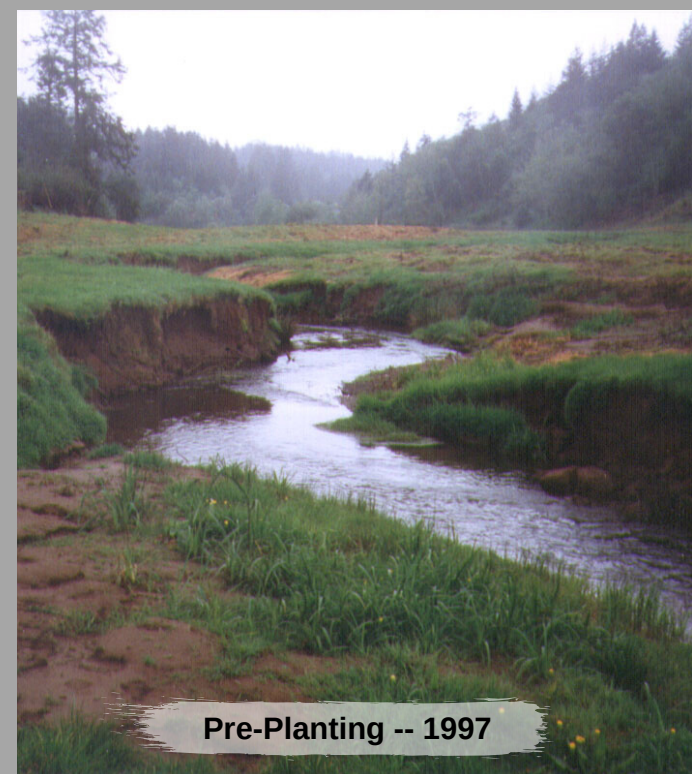


Post-Planting -- 2004

In 2010, the paired wooden top-hinge tide gate at the confluence of Willanch Creek was replaced with a set of aluminum tide gates, one top door and one side door with a Muted Tide Regulator (MTR). The head wall and gates were recycled from a previous installation and mounted to the existing paired box culvert in an economical compromise that provided a high cost-benefit for the project. Preliminary analyses have found that the MTR door opens much wider, a bit earlier and stays open significantly longer than the top door gate next to it, which allows for an increased opportunity for fish passage.

## *Habitat Creation*

Large wood placement in streams is an effective way to initiate natural habitat formation by creating diversity within the stream bed. By returning large wood to the system, several key salmon habitat types are created: wider and deeper scoured pools, riffles, and overhead cover that both shades the water and provides protection to the juveniles from predators.



Pre-Planting -- 1997

## Restoration Efforts, 1995-2019

Restoration of Willanch Creek was aimed at improving habitat conditions for salmon by addressing four main building blocks: fish passage; stream temperature; sediment inputs; and general spawning, rearing, and migratory habitat quality. These restoration objectives are based on the necessary habitat conditions for salmon reproduction and survival. In many cases the efforts used to address these objectives are interrelated and improve multiple habitat conditions. Salmon play a vital role in evaluating restoration efforts because they are good overall indicators of watershed health.

### *Increased Fish Passage*

Replacing four undersized culverts with bridges in upstream spawning habitat reaches greatly improved stream flow and fish access, while also releasing stored gravel to a total of 5.9 miles of stream with spawning and rearing habitat, enhancing the habitat quality overall.



New Tide Gate Installed 2010



# Restoring Willanch Creek



*25 Years of Cooperation Benefiting Salmon*





*Willow wall construction helped to shade the stream and lower the water temperature. (Photo taken in 1997.)*



*Riparian vegetation growing in Lower Valley assisted the 10°F drop in stream temperature. (Photo taken in 2004.)*



*Large wood placed in Willanch Creek in 2004 aided in enhancing stream complexity.*

## Introduction

The Coos Watershed Association's vision for a healthy Willanch Creek was put into action in 1995. After 25 years of perseverance in building strong partnerships, and completing a wide range of restoration projects, we've been able to demonstrate that the habitat for fish and other wildlife is improved: today the water is 10°F cooler, and water flowing through the creek and the surrounding floodplain takes a more natural path. This improvement relied on the cooperation and collaboration of five private landowners, three timber companies, four benefactors, the Coos County Road Department, and four different Coos Watershed Association project managers. Our work includes:

- planted trees, built willow walls, and built livestock exclusion fences along 1.15 miles of stream banks to reduce erosion and filter runoff from adjacent pastures;
- replaced culverts with bridges at four sites to permit fish to pass and to allow gravels to move downstream to access 5.9 miles of fish habitat;
- replaced the tide gate at the mouth of Willanch Creek with an improved design to allow juvenile fish access to the estuary during critical times;
- placed large wood in 0.86 miles stream to provide cover, collect gravels, and scour pools;
- blocked and removed 1.5 miles of unneeded logging roads to reduce soil erosion and prevent illegal garbage dumping.

## Setting

Although the Willanch Creek sub-basin (Figure 6, page 6-7) is a small part of the Coos watershed, it embodies a wide range of ecosystems and land uses. These conditions in a relatively small area make it a good place to evaluate watershed improvement projects and their affect on coho salmon habitat.

### Salmon Life Cycle and Habitat Needs

As shown in Figure 1, the coho salmon life cycle generally takes three years. Throughout the life cycle different habitat requirements play important roles in salmon survival and habitat requirements at different life cycle stages are often interrelated.

Fish have little physiological control over their body tempera-

ture, so they regulate it primarily by moving to a place in the river with a suitable temperature. These prime temperature places, or access to them, are often limited, which limit the number of salmon that can inhabit that stretch of stream. Additionally, as water warms it loses oxygen, which places additional stress on fish.

**Spawning and egg incubation** require marble to baseball-sized gravel. The spaces between these rocks, where the eggs and emerging young live, need to have clear, clean, flowing water with plenty of oxygen. Fine sediments, such as silt, can fill the spaces and suffocate the eggs. Flowing water, or riffles, deliver oxygen to eggs; riffles are rapid structures with a



choppy surface that incorporates oxygen into the water. This oxygenation benefit can continue downstream if water temperatures stay cool -- colder water retains more oxygen.

**Alevins, fry, and parr** require a complex stream system with a variety of habitats for summer and winter rearing. Summer rearing habitat consists of pools and in-stream wood that can provide food sources and refuge for growing fish. Winter rearing habitat, which was especially limiting in Willanch Creek, consists of off-channel alcoves, pools, and beaver ponds where juveniles can find protection from high winter flows and land predators.

**Smolt and adult migrations** can be limited by their ability to successfully move to and from the ocean. Smolts must be able to acclimate to the salt water in phases, which requires considerable freedom of movement at the transition between salt and freshwater. A number of human-made structures can interfere with the ability of fish to move between habitats. In Willanch Creek, barriers to fish passage included a faulty tide gate and undersized culverts.

### Landform in Willanch Creek Basin

Willanch Creek has many branching tributaries that flow into the main channel, draining a total of 5,369 acres (8.4 square miles). This east-west oriented basin encompasses elevations up to 1209 feet above sea level and contains many ecosystem types, from estuarine to forested uplands. Lowland flats of the Willanch sub-basin were used by the W'iccan Native American settlement for smoking fish caught in weirs (Coyote, 2010). Euro-American settlement of the Coos Bay area began in 1852. Coal mining was the first industry to take hold in the area, but lumber soon surpassed coal mining in importance. The first Coos Bay lumber shipments were sent to California as early as 1854 (Case, 1983). Early settlers worked hard to cultivate the land for agriculture, dairy farming, and cattle

grazing. Nineteenth century historical documents describe Willanch Slough as having well established farms where large amounts of labor and money had been expended to cultivate the land and make it habitable and productive (Dodge, 1898). The 1930 census indicates that there were 40 individuals living in 16 households along Willanch Creek who were engaged primarily in farming, ranching, and logging.

During the 10-year restoration period, 76% of the Willanch sub-basin is managed for timber. Although small woodlot owners manage some forestlands, industrial timber operators dominate the headwater areas of Willanch Creek and its tributaries. Agricultural land uses, primarily grazing and hay cropping, make up 20% of the sub-basin and are concentrated in the lower-gradient bottomlands. Rural residential land use comprises 4% of the sub-basin and is concentrated along Coos Bay.

### Land Use Effects

As Euro-Americans began to settle and farm in the Willanch Creek sub-basin, they cleared forests for timber, diked wetlands for pasture, and dredged and channelized streams to control their flow. Wetland draining of the area in the 1940s and 1950s included the placement of a tide gate at the mouth of Willanch Creek to prevent saltwater inundation in the bottomlands (CoosWA, 2006). Agricultural development eliminated much of the riparian vegetation, decreased channel complexity, and interrupted the natural cycle of sediment flushing. These activities led to increased stream temperature and sediment load, which reduced spawning and rearing habitat for salmon.

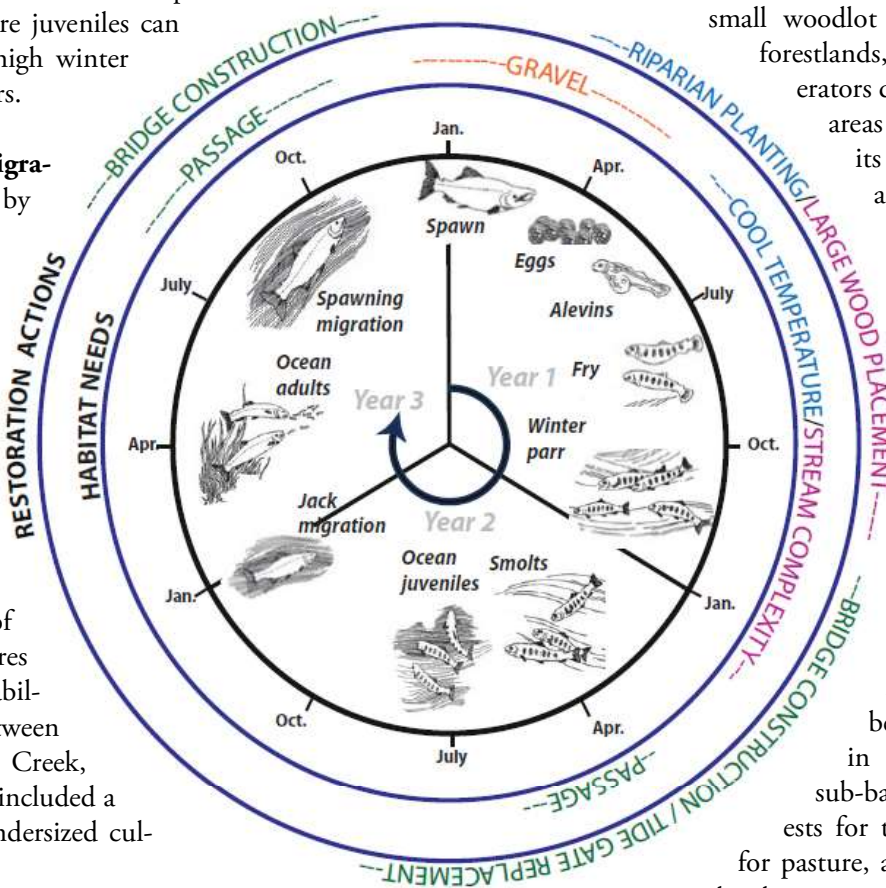


Figure 1 (above): Coho life cycle showing habitat needs and restoration actions taken to address those needs. (Adapted from Lawson, et al, 2007).

## Restoration Efforts, 1995-2010

Restoration of Willanch Creek was aimed at improving habitat conditions for salmon by addressing four main building blocks: fish passage; stream temperature; sediment inputs; and general spawning, rearing, and migratory habitat quality. These restoration objectives are based on the necessary habitat conditions for salmon reproduction and survival. In many cases the efforts used to address these objectives are interrelated and improve multiple habitat conditions (Figure 1, page 3). Salmon play a vital role in helping us evaluate restoration efforts because they are good overall indicators of watershed health.

### Improve Fish Passage

Four malfunctioning culverts were replaced with bridges to allow both adult and juvenile fish to move freely under these road crossings, opening 5.9 miles of fish habitat. The tide gate at the outlet of Willanch Creek was replaced in the summer of 2010, which increased fish passage and allowed for more natural tidal fluctuations, etc.

### Improve Stream Complexity

The aquatic habitat inventories (AHI) conducted in 2001 and 2003 identified the need for improving stream complexity. Specifically, more pools and alcoves were needed to provide fish with resting spots and refuge from higher flows, and riffles to incorporate oxygen into the water. Complexity was increased by adding eighteen large wood placements in the upper section of the creek. Large wood placement is known to improve summer rearing habitat by creating pools, increasing pool depth by scour action, trapping and sorting spawning gravel, enhancing channel sinuosity, and by generally adding complexity to the stream.

### Control Sediment Inputs

The Coos Bay Lowlands Assessment and Restoration Plan (CoosWA, 2006) showed that the Willanch sub-basin naturally had high levels of sediment. However, road-related erosion, improperly functioning culverts, and land-use practices added fine sediment to the system. In addition, the tide gate prevented sediment from being flushed out naturally. A variety of restoration activities were employed to address these habitat concerns: riparian plantings were done along approximately 1.5 miles of creek, 1.5 miles of road were removed, and four culverts were replaced with bridges to help improve sediment transport. It should be noted that in winter 2006/2007 a landslide in the Upper Wood Treatment Reach deposited a large amount of sediment into Willanch Creek that affected habitat conditions in the Upper Wood Treatment Reach (photo in Figure 6).

### Reduce Stream Temperature

Temperature is often considered an easy first-glance indicator of salmon habitat quality. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has established that salmon require a seven-day average temperature of 64°F or below. (ODEQ, 2009). Reducing the temperature of Willanch Creek was addressed through riparian planting and by allowing the creek to spread out and meander across its floodplain. Allowing the stream to easily flow into the floodplain causes water to infiltrate into the groundwater; this cooler water is then released back into the stream during lower flows in the summer months. Trees planted along the riparian zone provide shade to the stream promoting cooler water.

## Restoration Results

The effectiveness of the restoration actions were gauged by evaluating fish passage, habitat diversity, stream temperature, and fish populations. This data was used to determine how well the restoration efforts improved salmon habitat by addressing the objectives discussed above: improving fish passage, improving aquatic habitat diversity and complexity, reducing sediment, and decreasing temperature.

### Increased Fish Passage

Replacing four malfunctioning culverts with bridges in upstream spawning habitat reaches greatly increased the flow capacity of the stream. On average, flow increased over 20%, and at one crossing (that was completely blocked) flow increased 100%. These bridges also improved fish access to a total of 5.9 miles of stream with spawning and rearing habi-

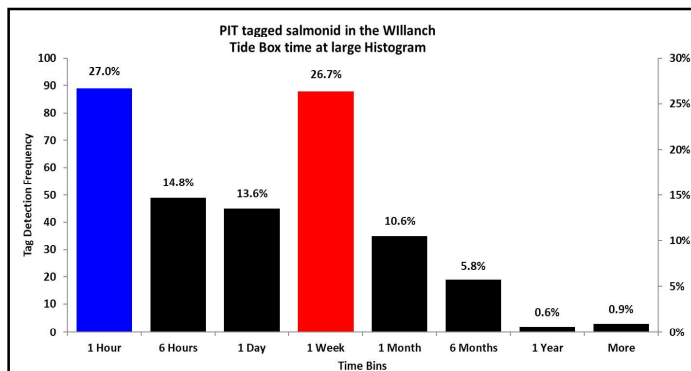


Figure 2: Time at Large (time of final resight minus time of first resight) for 332 PIT tagged salmonids detected at Willanch Creek tide gate PIT antenna array between June 2016 and June 2019. Bars represent number of fish on left axis and labels represent percent on the right axis. Blue bins represent half of all repeat resights. Note: 225 (40%) PIT tagged fish were only detected once and are not included.

tat, and released stored gravel, improving downstream habitat quality.

In 2010 the paired wooden top-hinge tide gate at the confluence of Willanch Creek was replaced with a set of aluminum tide gates, one top door and one side door with a Muted Tide Regulator (MTR). The head wall and gates were recycled from a previous installation and mounted to the existing paired box culvert in an economical compromise that provided a high cost-benefit for the project.

Intensive monitoring at the tide gate began in 2015 with the installation of gate angle sensors and water level loggers upstream and downstream of the gates (Souder et al 2018). These data were networked with a water velocity sensor in 2016 that provides a uniquely rigorous dataset for MTR tide gate modeling that is currently underway. Preliminary analyses have found that the MTR door opens much wider, a bit earlier and stays open significantly longer than the top door gate next to it.

Estuarine fish and plant species are numerous throughout the lower saline tidal reach of Willanch Creek. PIT tag antennas in each side of the Willanch tide box ‘resight’ tagged fish as they pass through or hold in the tide box. Histograms of ‘time at large’ (Figure 2) suggest that half of the fish detected pass through the tide gate quickly, detected only once (not included in Figure 2.), in 1 hour or less (blue), or reside in the tidal zone around the tide gate for up to a week (red). The greater than 1-year bin are 4 resights of adult salmon returning to spawn.

Other analyses show that the MTR door is open 56% of the time, twice as much as the top door gate next to it. Inher-

ent variance in the MTR operation across seasonal tidal and flow conditions has been shown to two feet. So, without any adjustments to the MTR setting, tidal inundation varies from 3.6 to 5.2 feet across the seasonal range of river discharge. The Muted Tide Regulator tide gate at Willanch Creek has restored a significant portion of the natural tidal exchange that would be expected with no gates present on the box culvert.

### Improved Aquatic Habitat Diversity

The aquatic habitat inventories (AHI) focused on parameters that are key habitat features for salmon: large wood, pool area, residual pool depth, riffle area, width to depth ratio, and entrenchment ratio of the stream. It is vital for salmon to have these diverse habitat types available in a stream. Our data was compared to the benchmarks established by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Moore, 1997). Figure 6 shows the AHI reach locations on Willanch Creek.

**Large wood** placement in streams is an effective way to initiate natural habitat formation and create diversity in key habitat types. By returning large wood to the system, several salmon habitat factors are improved: pool area, residual pool depth, riffle area, width to depth ratio, and entrenchment ratio. (Dredging and other outdated management techniques had removed large woody debris.) The Upper and Lower Wood

Treatment sites were treated with large wood in 2005. The 2009 AHI showed that the Lower Wood Treatment site attained a desirable level of large wood (according to the ODFW benchmark of 30 cubic meters per 100m of stream), but the Upper Wood Treatment site lacked sufficient key pieces (Figure 4, page 5). Now in 2017, AHI surveys show that

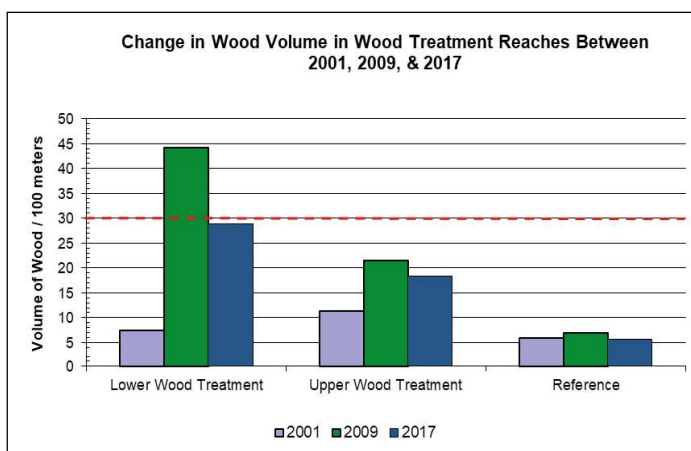


Figure 4: Increase in wood volume in reaches where large wood was added to the stream. The Lower Wood Treatment Reach met the ODFW benchmark in 2009 and fell just below this desirable benchmark in 2017. (Lower Valley and Upper Valley Reaches are not shown since they were not treated with wood.)

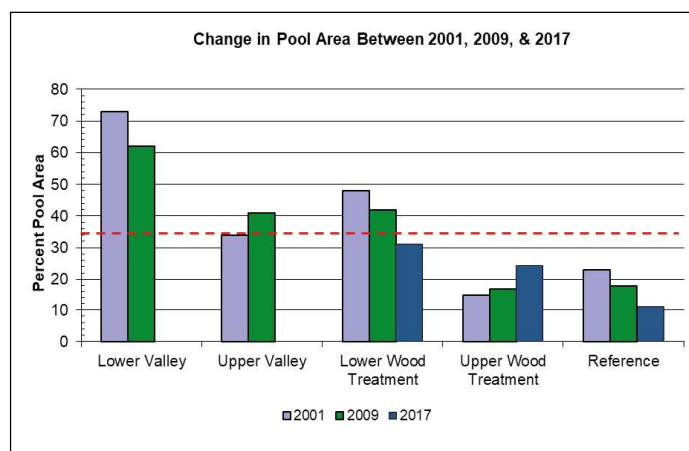


Figure 5: Three of the five reaches met the ODFW benchmark in 2009, yet during 2017 of the 3 reaches inventoried, none met this desirable benchmark. Both the Upper and Lower treatment reaches fall just short of the desirable pool area, and the reference reach is steadily decreasing in adequate pool area



## Figure 6: Willanch Creek Watershed Restoration

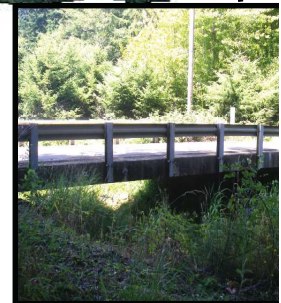
*New tide gate at the mouth of Willanch Creek, summer 2010.*



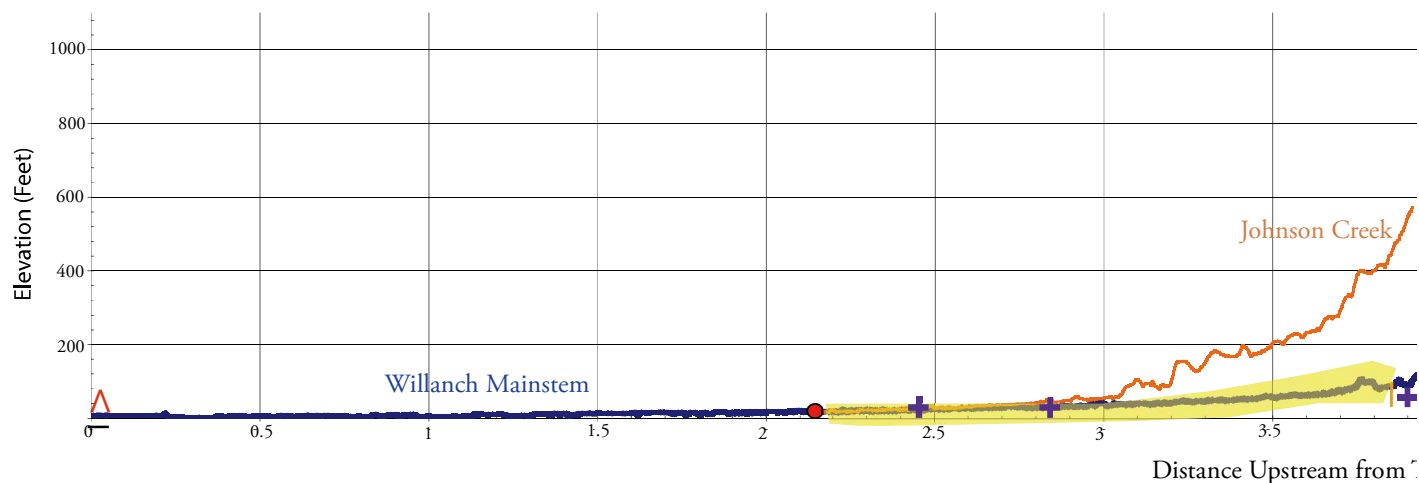
*Riparian planting along the Lower Valley Reach.*



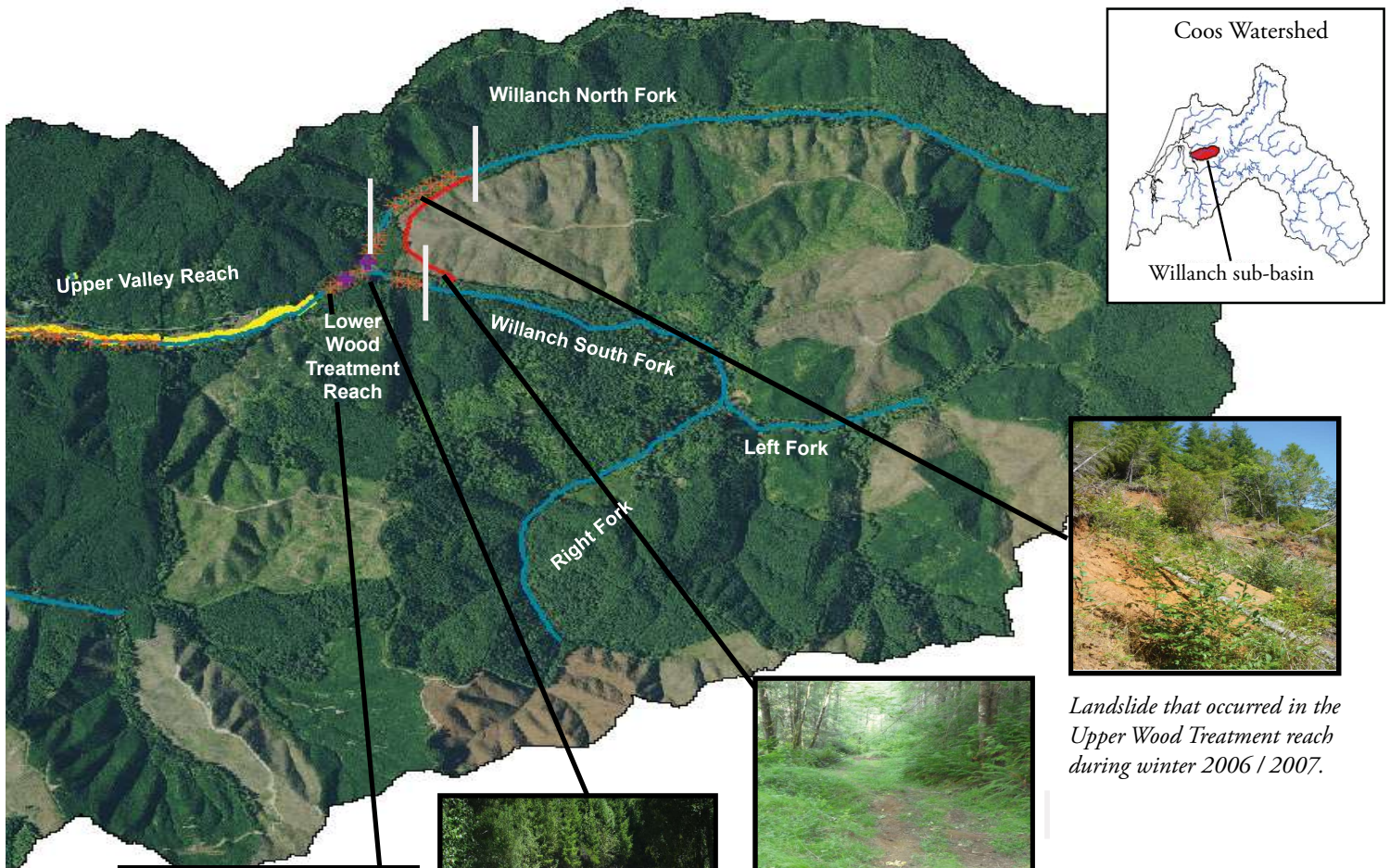
*Blocked culverts replaced with a railcar bridge to allow water to flow freely.*



*Second Bridge*







*Landslide that occurred in the Upper Wood Treatment reach during winter 2006 / 2007.*



*Weyerhaeuser road decommission to help prevent long term culvert failure and road washout.*



*Fourth Bridge*



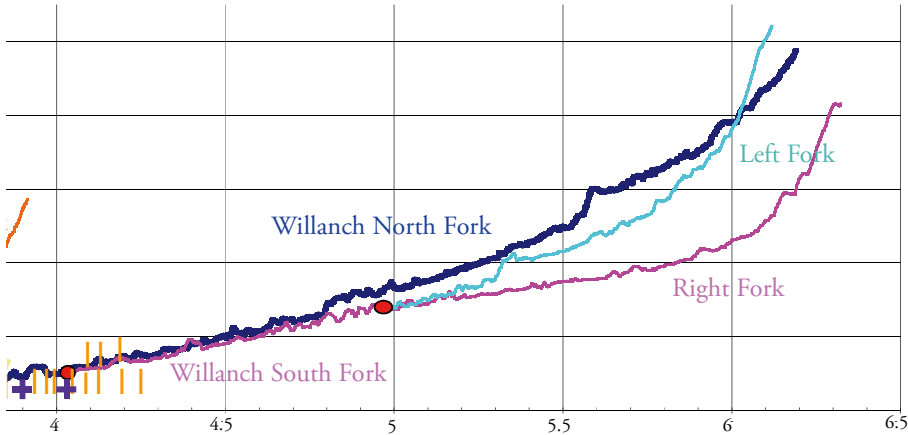
*Third Bridge*



### Legend

- Constructed Bridges
- Large Wood Placements
- Tide Gate Replacement
- Weyerhaeuser Road Decommission
- Riparian Planting

0 0.7 Miles



n Tide Gate (Miles)

the Upper Wood Treatment Reach has retained more than a 50% increase in wood volume from its pre project condition.

**Pool area** is important because pools provide refuge from higher flows during the rainy season and provide deeper water during droughts. In Willanch Creek, pools were created by the placement of large wood, which enhanced the scour action of the stream. According to ODFW, pool area should comprise 35% of the habitat in streams like Willanch Creek. In the 2001 and 2009 AHI surveys, three of the five reaches met this benchmark (Figure 5, page 5). The landslide in 2007 may have prevented the Upper Wood Treatment Reach from meeting the desirable benchmark. Data from the 2017 surveys show that both of the wood treatment reaches are just below the desirable benchmark, while the Reference reach (untreated) is steadily decreasing year after year.

**Residual pool depth**, as described by Thomas Lisle (1987), is “the depth that, if flow were reduced to zero, water would fill pools just up to their lips.” This is an unbiased, quantitative

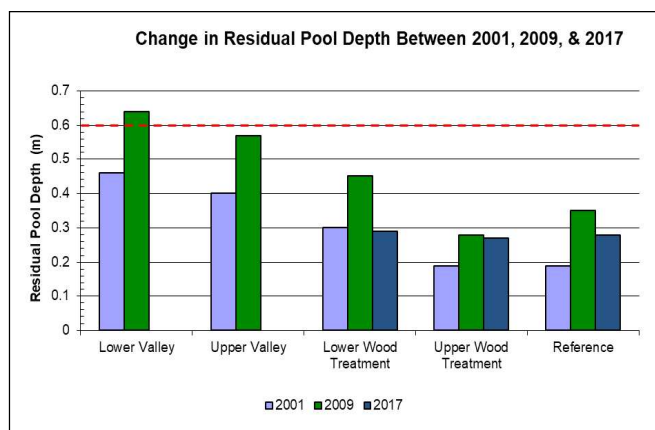


Figure 7: All reaches showed improvements in residual pool depths from 2001 to 2009, yet in 2017 all surveyed reaches fell below the 2009 findings.

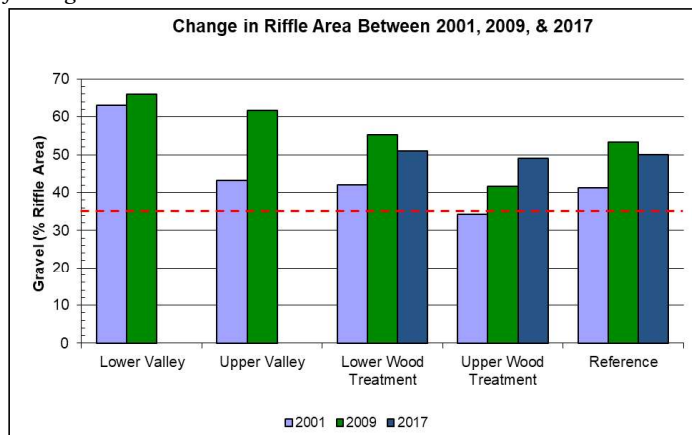


Figure 8: All reaches met the ODFW benchmark in 2009 for gravel (% riffle area).

way to measure change in pool size. The ODFW benchmark for medium streams, such as Willanch Creek, states that residual pool depths should be greater than 0.6 meters (2 feet). The 2001 AHI survey showed that no reach met this benchmark; the 2009 AHI survey showed one of the five reaches had met this desirable level and all reaches showed moderate improvement from pre project conditions (Figure 7). In 2017, the reaches surveyed (Lower Wood, Upper Wood, and Reference) all hovered near 50% (0.3 meters) of the ODFW desirable benchmark for this variable; less than desirable benchmarks for residual pool depths may indicate that additional restoration is required to attain this critical habitat benchmark.

**Riffle areas** in a stream have fast water with choppy surfaces that provide oxygen for young salmon and these riffles usually have a gravel substrate that provides adequate salmon spawning habitat. The 2001 AHI survey indicated that four of the five reaches met the ODFW benchmark of 35% gravel in riffle areas. All reaches surveyed in 2009 & 2017 exceeded the desirable amount of riffle area (Figure 8). Improvements to undersized culverts and road decommissioning, coupled with instream habitat structures have helped to promote gravel retention throughout the basin.

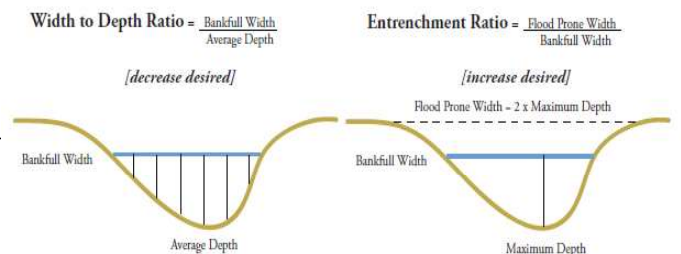


Figure 9: Diagrams showing how width to depth ratio and entrenchment ratio are calculated.

**Width to depth ratio**, shown in Figure 9, indicates the shape of the channel. Some streams are wide and shallow (high ratio), while others are deep and narrow (low ratio). The width to depth ratio was reduced in Willanch Creek through riparian planting and large wood placement. A desirable width to depth ratio, according to ODFW standards, is less than 15 for streams on the western side of the Cascades. Although four of the five reaches in the study had a desirable width to depth ratio in 2001, the 2009 AHI survey showed that all five reaches met this benchmark and four out of five improved (Figure 10).

**Entrenchment ratio** is a measure of the ability of a channel to expand into its floodplain: some channels have steep banks that keep the stream confined, while other channels have



Change In Floodplain Connectivity From 2001 to 2009

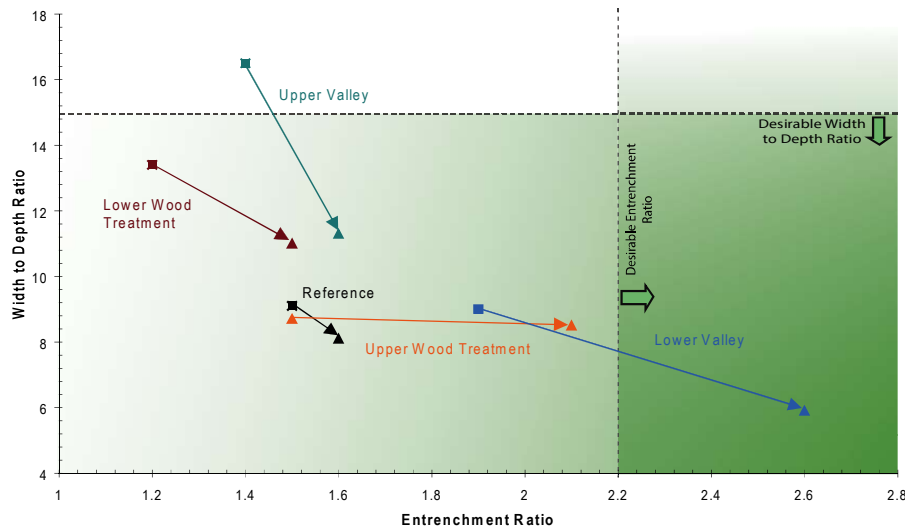


Figure 10: Comparison between width to depth ratio and entrenchment ratio in Willanch Creek from 2001 to 2009. A decrease in width to depth ratio and an increase in entrenchment ratio is the desirable trend. The Lower Valley reach met both these benchmarks. (AHI data for 2017 was unavailable for these attributes)

banks that allow floodwaters to easily spill into the floodplain (Figure 9). Increasing entrenchment ratio—floodplain connectivity—helps replenish groundwater during the wet season. This cooler water is then released during the dryer, warmer months. According to Rosgen (1996), an entrenchment ratio greater than 2.2 indicates a well-developed floodplain. The 2009 AHI survey showed that only one reach had a desirable entrenchment ratio; however, the remaining four showed improvement (Figure 10). Over time, gravels deposited at the large wood placement sites will improve entrenchment ratios.

### Increased Vegetation Cover

Bank stability is affected by land use practices, riparian vegetation, soil type, flow volume, and velocity. Bank stability is an important concern for salmon habitat and water quality because unstable, eroding banks deliver fine sediment to the stream. Bank stability was improved at Willanch Creek through riparian planting, willow wall construction, and fencing that kept livestock off the banks and out of the stream. The National Marine Fisheries Service guidelines suggest that banks with more than 90% vegetation cover have the best stream habitat (1996). In both the 2001 and 2009 AHI surveys, four of the five reaches met this benchmark. The Lower Valley showed improvement (from 81.4% covered to 89.4% covered). As shown in the photo in Figure 5, prior to the riparian planting projects the stream banks were relatively unstable in the Low-

er Valley Reach. Note that in 1996 a natural landslide in the Upper Wood Treatment Reach contributed a large amount of sediment into the stream.

### Decreased Stream Temperature

Lowering stream temperature is an important goal in many stream restoration projects because water temperature (and related dissolved oxygen) is critical to salmon survival. Each summer, from 1997 to 2018, temperature recorders were placed throughout Willanch Creek to measure maximum stream temperature. Water temperature generally increases as water travels downstream, an effect heavily influenced by the amount of shade

from riparian vegetation. Temperature reductions are illustrated in Figures 11-13. Our main objective was to reduce stream temperatures to below 64°F. Over the twenty-one years of temperature data collection, the lower site showed a decrease in temperature from 74.2°F to 64.8°F—a 10°F reduction that satisfied the standard; all sites were under or within 1°F the DEQ temperature standard for over a decade of data collection. We hypothesize that the initial cooling was due to shading by riparian vegetation planted in 1997. The second period of cooling was likely due to improved channel entrenchment ratio that resulted in more floodplain connectivity. (A “well connected” floodplain allows flood water to soak into the banks; this cool water is later released to the stream.) Additionally, the planted trees lured beavers into the

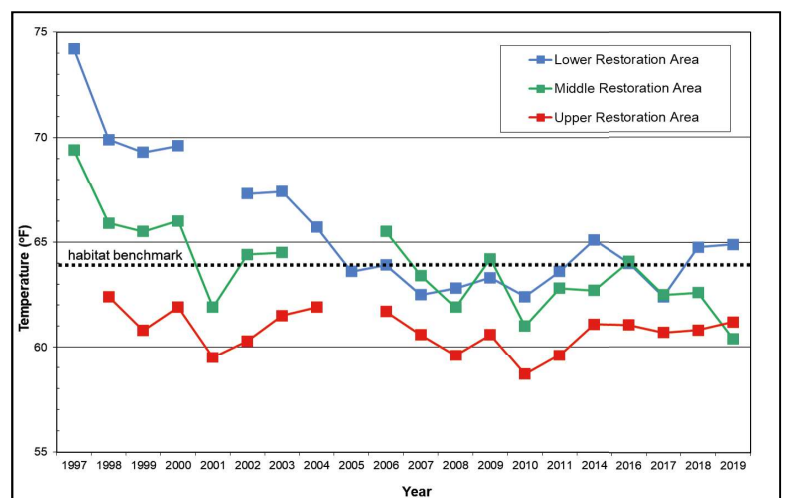


Figure 11: Temperature data collected on Willanch Creek from 1997 to 2018 in the lower restoration, middle restoration, and upper restoration areas. Starting in 2007 all areas were below the salmon temperature threshold of 64°F. This trend has largely continued for over a decade.

area. Beaver ponds have naturally slowed the stream, further increasing floodplain connectivity and the stored water that is released into the stream during the summer.

### So What's This All Mean For Fish?

The cumulative efforts to improve and increase the salmon and steelhead population in Willanch Creek includes all types of restoration activities from the estuary to the headwaters. Restored access to spawning and tidal rearing habitats was complemented by reduced summer water temperatures to optimal conditions for juvenile coho and trout.

The restoration's success has been established as a result of the long term monitoring that has captured the ecological improvements over time.

Regional and coast wide salmon populations naturally rise and fall due to climate patterns in the Pacific Ocean. Rupp et al. (2012) found strong predictive power of annual adult coho recruitment in Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) indices, a component of Sea Surface Temperature (SST) anomalies. Likewise, the North Pacific Gyre Oscillation (NPGO) index, a component of sea surface height, also tracks coho populations (Figure 13). These climatic cycles act on large continental scales but locally, periodic natural disturbances also occur. In Willanch Creek noteworthy examples were the complete blockage of the culvert (that was later replaced by the "Third Bridge") which interrupted spawning migrations in 2001, and the landslide in the Upper Wood Treatment area in 2007 that dumped thousands of cubic yards of earth into the North Fork.

Changes to ocean, estuary and stream habitats can effect multiple cohorts due to the three year coho life cycle (Figure 1). Alignment of climate and local disturbances can interact to significantly reduce coho populations. Yet salmon persist because resiliency is key to thriving salmon and steelhead populations. Places like Willanch Creek, at the nexus of the stream and estuary ecotone, provide critical habitat for salmon to express the full range of life history adaptations.

ODFW and CoosWA spawning surveys indicate that Willanch Creek coho populations track the numbers of coho that return to the Coos watershed and the Oregon coast as

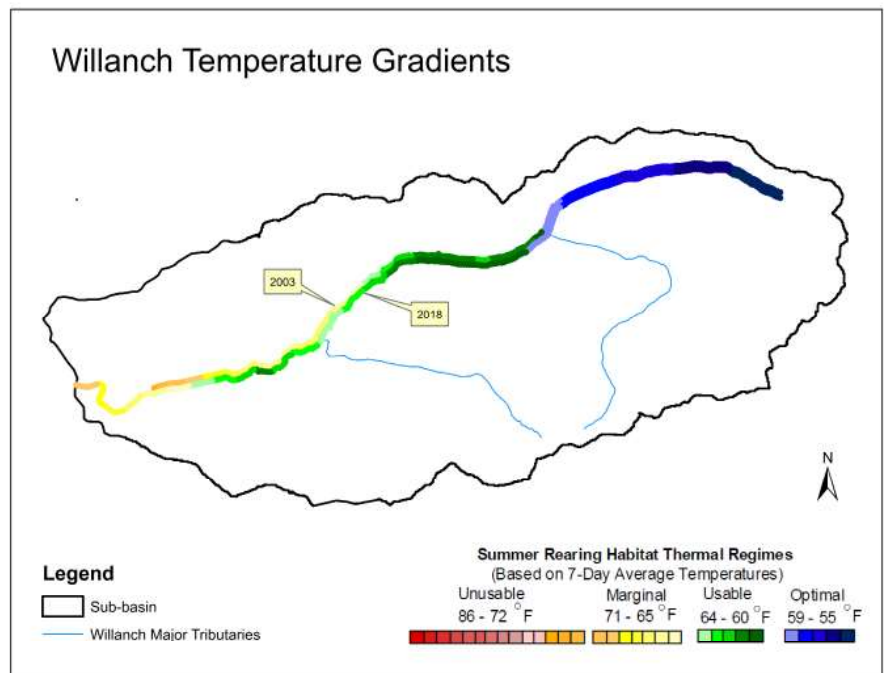


Figure 12: Temperature data gathered on Willanch Creek in 2003 (top line) and 2018 (bottom line). As a result of riparian planting and increased floodplain connectivity, cooler water reached lower in the stream (2.5mi. from the headwaters) in 2018 than in 2003.

a whole. Figure 14 shows this relationship for two areas of Willanch Creek for years when both surveys were conducted. Between 1992 and 2018, the Upper Valley and Lower Wood produced about 20% more coho than the basin average, while the Lower Valley Reach produced about 40% fewer coho than the basin average. Now that restoration efforts have been largely completed, we would expect to see steeper lines in future years compared to the recent past as habitat and populations continue to recover.

### Conclusion

Restoration efforts in the Willanch sub-basin demonstrate how an integrated, sub-basin watershed scale approach to restoration can produce measurable improvements in salmon habitat. Restoring both habitats and the connectivity across them is essential to function for the interactive environments that salmon inhabit. Ecological, social and economic goals all guide habitat restoration and management. Functional quality habitat and stable fish populations indicate that Willanch Creek is an ecologically functioning subbasin. Restoration in working landscapes is an adaptive process that requires ongoing maintenance as well. Opportunity remains in the Willanch subbasin to further restore connectivity to marsh/pasture platform environments. Adaptive management of the MTR under a collaboratively developed water

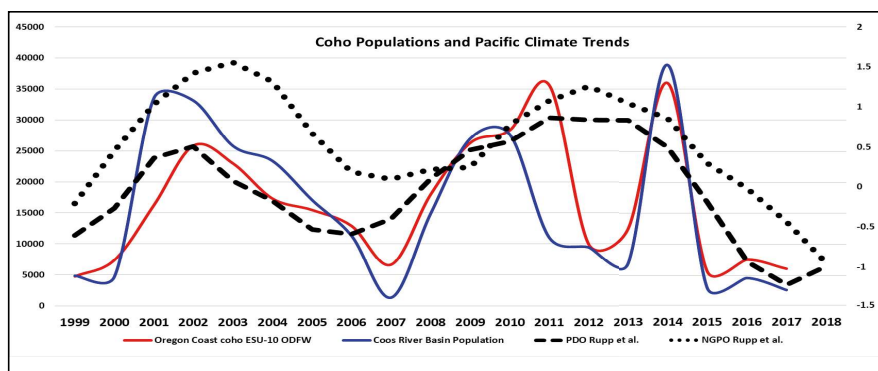


Figure 13. Pacific climate patterns drive coho salmon population trends. OCESU (red line) and Coos basin (blue line) coho population estimates (ODFW 2019). Spring and summer previous 4-year average of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation (dashed black line) and North Pacific Gyre Oscillation (dotted black line) indices (Rupp et al. 2012).

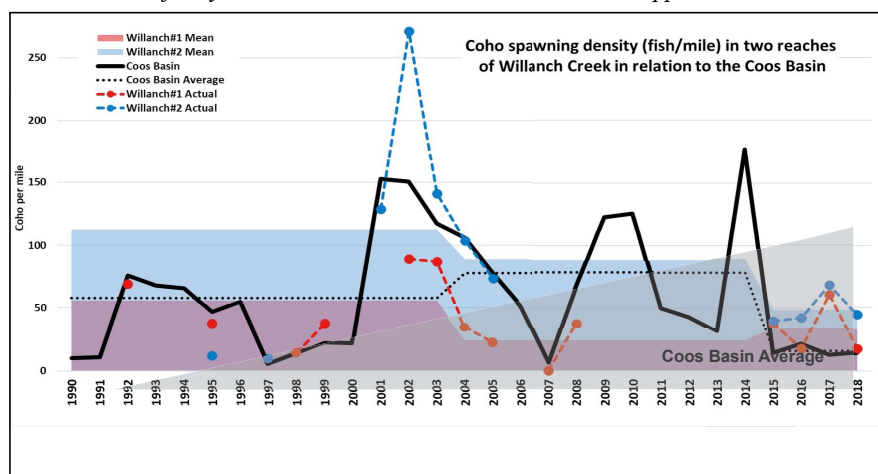


Figure 14. Willanch coho spawner density (fish/mile) tracks the Coos Basin density from the early 1990's to 2018. Between 1992 and 2018, the Upper Valley and Lower Wood produced about 20% more coho than the basin average, while the Lower Valley Reach produced about 40% fewer coho than of the basin average.

management plan that provides for both increased fish habitat and pasture productivity is a relatively new concept that can release additional shared benefits.

Healthy salmon populations in Willanch Creek indicate good watershed health and are essential to both the ecology and economy of the Coos watershed. Being able to “Tell the Story” of the success of restoration and monitoring efforts in Willanch Creek is greatly attributable to the involvement of many very cooperative landowners and funders.

## Acknowledgements

Many CoosWA project managers and monitoring technicians, both past and present, have worked on restoration projects in the Willanch Creek sub-basin since 1995. We would like to thank all project partners: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Coos County Road Department, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Lone Rock Timber Company, Weyerhaeuser Timber Company, Menasha Forest Products Corporation, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, the Coos Bay-North Bend Water Board, and the Laird Norton Family

Foundation. Most importantly, we would like to acknowledge the cooperation of all the private landowners in the Willanch Creek sub-basin, especially: Frank & Linda Babcock, Donald & Ruby Gray, Mark & Alanna Johnson, Frank & Mavis Rood, and Jackie & Belinda Shaw.

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# COOS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

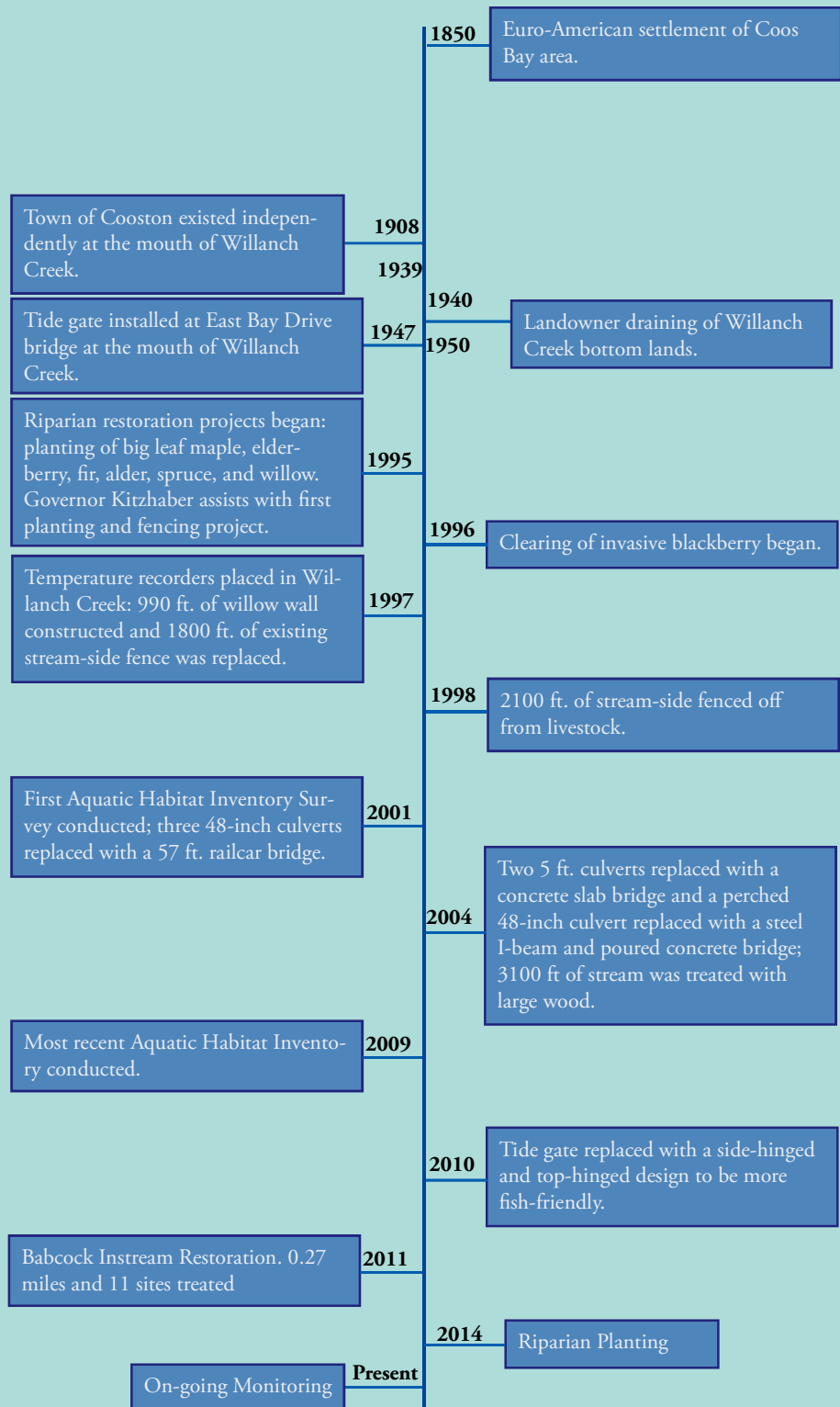
Please contact us to learn more about the Coos Watershed Association. Whether you are a landowner with a potential restoration project or seeking assistance on ways that you can better manage your land, or you would just like to know more about who we are and where we work, we would love to hear from you.

Coos Watershed Association  
300 Central Ave.  
Coos Bay, Oregon 97420  
Phone: (541) 888-5922  
E-mail: [admin@cooswatershed.org](mailto:admin@cooswatershed.org)  
Website: [www.cooswatershed.org](http://www.cooswatershed.org)

Support for the creation of this case study was provided through the generosity of the Laird Norton Family Foundation and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.



## Timeline of Willanch Creek Post-Settlement







Kate Brown, Governor



775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item N supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority #3: Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
Andrew Dutterer, Partnerships Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item N – Rogue Forest FIP Geography Change Request  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Background

Focused Investment Partnerships (FIP) administrative rules require that any proposed changes to the geography, scope, or partners of a FIP initiative are reported to the board (OAR 695-047-0130(4d)). Since the board approved the originally proposed FIP initiative, any proposed changes are subject to board approval as well. This is an action item.

### II. Rogue Forest Partners Proposed FIP Initiative Geography Change

The Rogue Forest Partners request to adjust their FIP initiative geography to include the West Bear area and remove the Middle Applegate area. This will allow the partnership to leverage FIP funding for restoration-related activities (capacity, monitoring, and community engagement) with other significant restoration investments in the West Bear area. The result would be a net gain of 12,000 acres for the FIP initiative, including 5,000 acres of restoration treatments and leveraging of over \$5 million. The West Bear area encompasses contiguous acres with the former Ashland Forest All-Lands Restoration Initiative FIP and includes a higher proportion of private lands and structures than the originally proposed Middle Applegate area. The West Bear area is situated near the towns of Phoenix, Talent, and Jacksonville. Since the West Bear area did not burn in the fall 2020 wildfires, it has emerged as a high priority for restoration to mitigate against future wildfire threat to these communities and forests. Attachment A is a memo submitted by the Rogue Forest Partners outlining the proposed change in greater detail.

### III. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommend that the board approve the proposed change for the Rogue Forest Partners to include the West Bear area and remove the Middle Applegate area in their FIP initiative geography.

### Attachments

Attachment A. Rogue Forest Partners OWEB FIP Initiative Modification Proposal





Proposal to Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for the Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative (RFRI): Substitute the West Bear planning area for the RFRI Middle Applegate planning area to increase restoration acres (5,000) consistent with the RFRI strategic action plan and to provide additional leverage (\$5 million) that will substantially reduce the risk and impacts of future fires.

### Background

The Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative (RFRI) includes six project areas (**see attached Map 1**), one of which --the Upper Applegate Watershed -- was selected as a larger landscape project where landscape effectiveness monitoring would be conducted. The original selection criteria for these project areas include a) high priority for risk reduction to protect habitat and communities, b) NEPA ready (if on federal lands), c) private land in need of treatment in strategic locations, d) presence within each of six federal land management unit footprints and e) ability to scale up to a landscape level with leverage.

Implementation is proceeding in Biennium 1 on three of the project areas—the Upper Applegate Watershed, Williams, and Upper Briggs project areas; each has been leveraged to expand treatment totaling 1,252 acres to date under existing agreements. The Rogue Forest Partners (RFP) have also set the stage for work on the other three projects beginning in Biennium 2.

Recently, several of the RFP partners engaged, with other sources of funding, in a new project called West Bear All-Lands Restoration Project (West Bear), (**see attached Map 2**). West Bear is adjacent to the Ashland Forest All-Lands Restoration FIP and close to the communities of Talent, Phoenix and Jacksonville. The project area does not encompass the 2020 Almeda fire, but parts of the project are as close as one mile to the west.

Because of the strong alignment with Rogue Forest Partners' (RFP) goals and objectives as well as a convergence of emerging partner interest, the RFP is proposing to leverage OWEB's investment more effectively in southwest Oregon by revising the original OWEB RFRI proposal to substitute the West Bear for the Middle Applegate project area. This would provide for a net gain of 12,000 project acres. The result of this exchange would be an increase of 5,000 acres of restoration treatments, leveraging of over \$5 million and an opportunity to better serve the community at risk.

### Rationale

The West Bear Initiative aligns with Rogue Forest Partners' critical values—fire adapted communities, habitat and legacy tree protection and climate adaptation, and we believe the project would also align with OWEB's Focused Investment Partnership criteria. The project area contains the largest aggregation of priority treatment acres identified in the Rogue Basin Strategy within the mapped "communities at risk." Rogue Forest Partners specifically elevated the urgency and need to address wildfire risk in the forested residential areas and further collaborated on integrating a proactive fire management approach using detailed wildfire Potential Operational Delineations (PODs). Also included in the project

area is a 427-acre Research Natural Area managed by BLM with some of the last remaining low-elevation old growth forest in southwest Oregon. West Bear project cohesively integrates over \$5 million of existing investments in this focal landscape from:

- Southwest Integrated Forest and Fire Treatment Initiative (Sustainable Northwest) *Secured*
- Anderson Creek Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project (Lomakatsi-FEMA) *Secured*
- Regional Conservation Partnership Program (NRCS) *Secured*
- Title II Funding (Lomakatsi-Bureau of Land Management) *Secured*
- Landscape Scale Restoration Program (USFS) *Prospective*
- Oregon Recreation and Conservation Fund, (SOFRC) *Secured*
- Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (Lomakatsi-US Fish and Wildlife Service) *Secured*
- Wildland Urban Interface Grant Program (CWSF) *Prospective*
- Congressionally Directed Spending (Senator Merkley) *Prospective*

The West Bear location, scale, design, available funding, and the increased function in reducing risk to communities make it markedly more suitable to achieve the RFRI objectives for landscape level restoration and providing community protection. The exchange would greatly increase the proportion of treatment on private land to federal lands as compared to the Middle Applegate.

Our proposed project exchange would apply the Middle Applegate treatment funding to West Bear, but given the level of secured restoration implementation funding, OWEB funding would be shifted to provide capacity, monitoring, and engagement.

The earlier proposed Middle Applegate project was envisioned as seed money, necessary to catalyze co-investment in these landscapes. The RFRI investments in developing the RFP and initial steps in implementation on three project areas toward realizing the Rogue Basin Strategy effectively attracted this co-investment but in reconsidering priorities, the West Bear project area emerged as more strategic and effective at achieving multiple objectives. Both project areas are in the BLM Ashland Resource Area and while the Middle Applegate is a mixture of federally managed and private rural properties, West Bear has a larger proportion of private lands and structures exposed to wildfire. This concentration of private landowners, including the towns of Phoenix, Talent and Jacksonville will increase the effectiveness of RFP outreach and engagement to build critical support for similar dry forest conservation actions across the Rogue basin.

Driven by emerging opportunities and deeper consideration of the opportunity to achieve landscape resilience to wildfire, the RFP attention has shifted to the West Bear geography and with limited resources and capacity, we see a much greater return on investment in West Bear than the originally proposed Middle Applegate.

## Activities

The 27,000-acre West Bear project area is slated to treat over 5,000 acres in high priority, strategic locations with ecological thinning, fuels reduction, and prescribed fire. Proposed monitoring of these actions will produce a comprehensive data set on wildfire risk reduction treatments and community and habitat protection in the WUI to inform future efforts that can be expanded across Oregon. Public engagement, partnership, applied scientific theory, and rigorous monitoring will provide clear and demonstrable public benefit at a significant scale and emphasize the importance of ongoing maintenance to perpetuate the benefits of initial treatments. Rogue Forest Partner activities in the West Bear project will:

1. Engage with homeowners and landowners to develop and implement wildfire mitigation plans and monitor ecologically sound forest health restoration treatments
2. Implement wildfire risk reduction projects on public and private forestlands to protect homes, critical infrastructure, and reduce impacts to vulnerable populations.
3. Enhance forest resiliency and restore function to unique ecosystems by accomplishing treatments that improve tree survival and preserve large and old structure needed by wildlife.
4. Conduct multi-party monitoring of ecological and socioeconomic project outcomes to replicate, scale, and communicate applied theory and adaptive management for broad public benefit.
5. Coordinate broad stakeholder engagement, secure public support, and advocate for increased public and private investments in forest health and resiliency, wildfire risk reduction, and community protection and preparedness in southwest Oregon

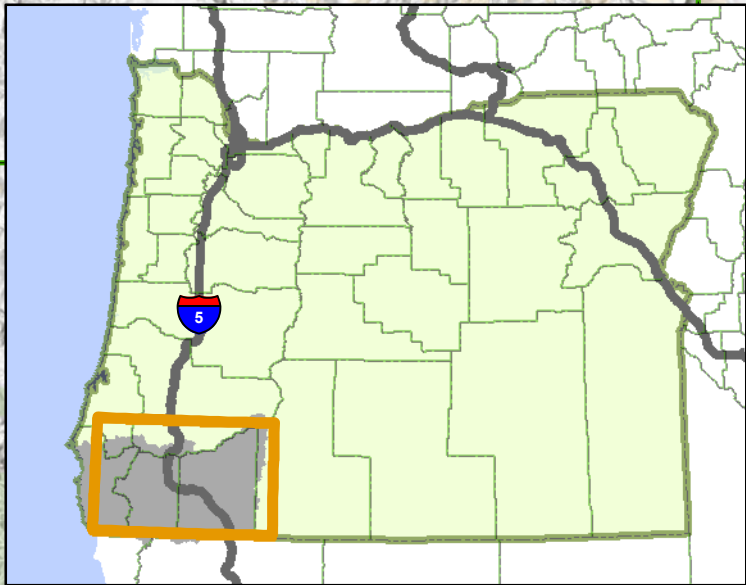
### Support

In addition to the Rogue Forest Partners unanimously agreeing to the change in project areas, we reached out to local watershed councils, Tribes involved in our projects and local conservation groups. All organizations and groups we contacted were supportive of this exchange. Because the Middle Applegate project area contains extensive BLM administered lands, significant consideration of the change with the BLM Ashland Resource Area staff was given. Additionally, we consulted with local OWEB staff and the RFRI project manager before elevating this proposal to the OWEB board.

### Summary

Exchanging the West Bear planning area for the Middle Applegate planning area would provide a significant increase in treated acres (5,000 acres) consistent with the objectives of the RFRI strategic action plan and would provide sufficient investment to significantly influence likely future fire impacts. This is an opportunity to co-invest with active partners to successfully transform a critical landscape. The inclusion of the needed monitoring and engagement funding creates an opportunity to leverage this important work, build momentum and comprehensively invest in future landscapes.





FEMA Anderson Creek

Jacksonville LSR Project

Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative

NRCS RCPP

Streets by Type

Freeway

State Highway

Major Arterial

USA Federal Lands

Bureau of Land Management

Forest Service

National Park Service

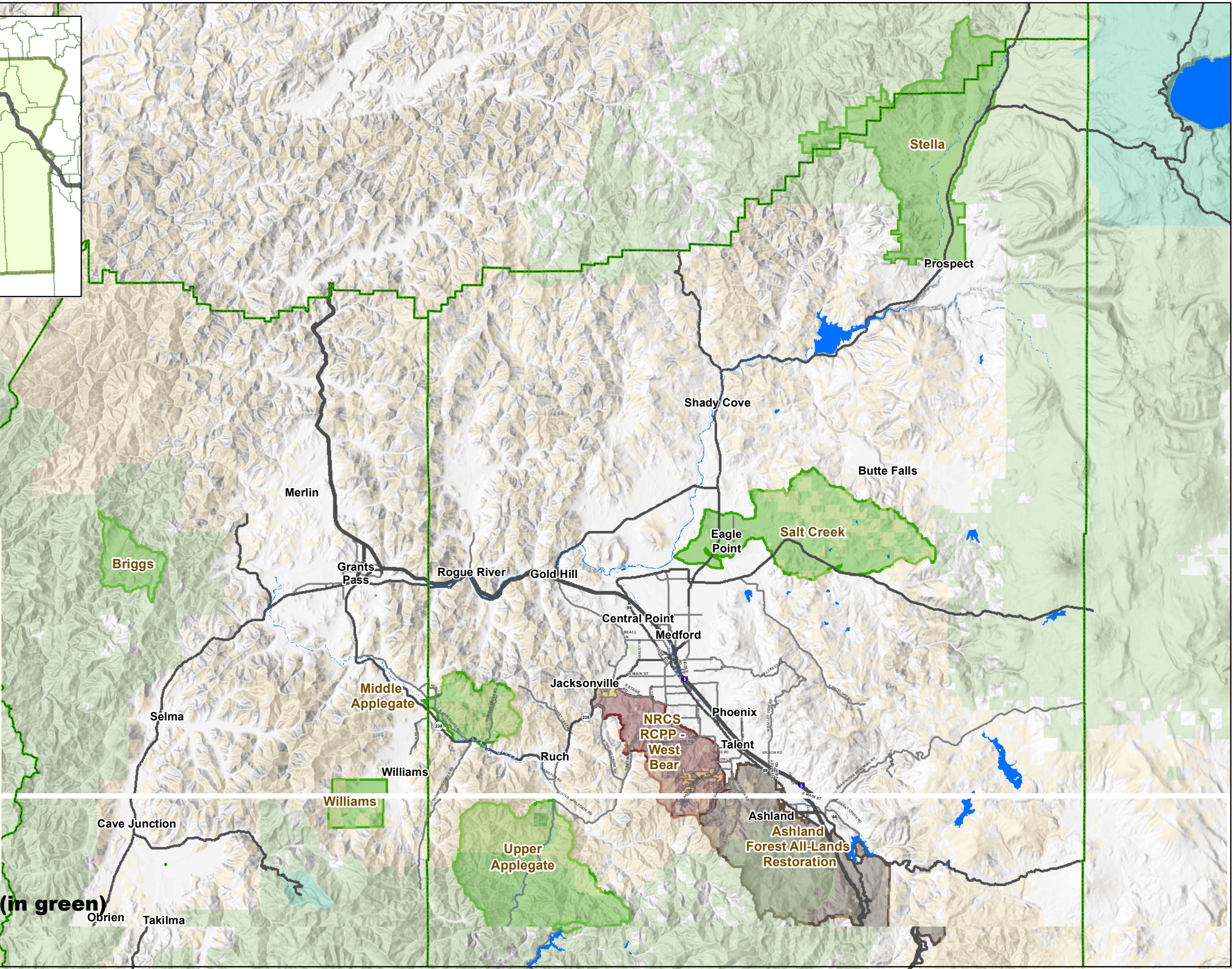
Rivers and Lakes

N

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Miles

MAP 1 RFRI PROJECTS (in green)







FEMA Anderson Creek

Jacksonville LSR Project

Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative

NRCS RCPP

Streets by Type

Freeway

State Highway

Major Arterial

USA Federal Lands

Bureau of Land Management

Forest Service

National Park Service

Rivers1

N

01246

Miles

MAP 2: MIDDLE APPLGATE & WEST BEAR





Kate Brown, Governor



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*Agenda Item O supports OWEB's Strategic Plan Priorities 2, 5, 6, and 7.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Renee Davis, Deputy Director  
Audrey Hatch, Conservation Outcomes Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item O – Update about Climate Executive Order 20-04 Activities  
July 27-28, 2021 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

Staff will update the board about implementation activities for Governor Brown's Executive Order (EO) 20-04, issued in March of 2020 and focused on climate. This is an information item only.

### II. Background

In early March of 2020, Governor Brown issued the EO, which directs state agencies to take actions to reduce and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. In addition to the general directive for agencies to exercise authority and discretion in helping to meet greenhouse gas emissions goals and prioritize actions that will help vulnerable populations and impacted communities, OWEB is specifically identified in the Executive Order in several sections of the EO, including (but not limited to):

- Section 3.E. Participate on an interagency workgroup convened by the Governor's Office on climate impacts to impacted communities, with the intent of developing strategies to guide state climate actions.
- Section 12.A. Directives to the Oregon Global Warming Commission (OGWC) – In coordination with Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Department of Forestry and OWEB, the OGWC is directed to submit a proposal to the Governor by June 30, 2021 for consideration of adoption of state goals for carbon sequestration and storage by Oregon's natural and working landscapes, including forests, wetlands, and agricultural lands, based on best available science.

### III. EO Implementation Activities

OWEB staff participated in the Interagency Workgroup on Climate Impacts to Impacted Communities, which was convened by staff from the Governor's Office. The aim of the workgroup is to: 1) Coordinate state collaboration across sectors to put equity at the center and develop climate policy that benefits frontline communities; 2) Determine how state agencies can be accountable to frontline communities; and 3) Identify top priorities for climate impacted communities. The ultimate goal is to develop a climate justice

strategy to serve impacted communities and recommendations for potential improvements. Release of the workgroup's report and recommendations is pending, with an expected release in July. At the July board meeting, staff will update the OWEB board about the report's content.

Staff also have been deeply engaged in the OGWC work related to natural and working lands (NWL). First, OWEB assisted with outreach to ensure OGWC received input about NWL challenges and opportunities from relevant groups—ranging from agricultural and forestry interests and conservationists, to tribes, environmental justice groups, and landowners. Outreach included a targeted survey for Oregon's agricultural and forest landowners, and the organizations that support them; and a series of focused discussions to inform the OGWC recommendation. Second, OWEB staff have partnered with other agencies on technical work to make recommendations about how to improve data inventories for Oregon's agricultural, forest and estuarine landscapes. Results from the outreach and technical work is being incorporated into the OGWC report and recommendations. The draft report is scheduled for release for public comment on July 16, 2021, and the final approval of the report by OGWC is scheduled for August 4, 2021. At the July board meeting, staff will update the board about the report's content and recommendations, with a particular focus on those items that have a nexus to OWEB.

#### **IV. Recommendation**

This is an informational item only.